

29. The description of the Meywar Government, contained in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the accompanying Report, will show plainly how far India under native dominion has lagged behind India of the ruling power, and will illustrate the necessity of forcing the Rajpoot Governments to some progress, lest the comparison should result in their ruin.

30. Colonel Hutchinson's Report contains a narrative of the disputes between the Maharanas and the leading Nobles from the year A. D. 1818.

31. We have endeavoured by mere advice and tact to subdue a turbulent and powerful nobility to a weak and sometimes vicious, despotic Government, and we have inculcated the necessity of adhering to old customs; whilst in our own country we have everywhere substituted our own system for the traditional government of the Hindoos.

32. The political future of all Rajpootana is sufficiently difficult, but nowhere does a continuance of the existing relations between the Chief and the Nobles seem so hopeless as in Meywar.

33. The stories of the Raos of Amait, of Doongurmow, of Suloomber, of Deogurh, of Kotharia, and Bhynsroreghur, as given in paragraphs 21 to 26 of the Political Agent's Report, are good illustrations of the state of society in Meywar.

34. The Bheels, who form a large portion of the Meywar population, have, from the weakness and want of system of the Government, continued to live in separate communities, obeying only their own Chiefs, and, when it suits them, defying the Durbar authority. At present a contest is going on between the Durbar and certain Bheel Pals, in which the latter do not seem to suffer much. Colonel Hutchinson is of opinion that the only chance of the Durbar retaining its authority is by an extension of the powers of the Superintendent of the Hilly Tracts.

35. This view is not, however, much encouraged from a perusal of the Report of the latter official. He states in paragraph 9 as follows:—

“The civil administration on the hilly tracts is in the hands of the Durbar, under the general supervision of the Political Superintendent, to whom the Muggra-ka-Hakim, or Native Governor, reports all criminal cases; but as the investigation rests with the Durbar officials, the system, as stated by my predecessor, Colonel Brooke, results in ‘a constant struggle between the Native Government seeking to oppress the Bheels and the Superintendent of Kherwarra to protect them.’ A succession of utterly inefficient Hakims or Governors and grasping and corrupt Kamdars has dissipated all trust and confidence in their honesty and justice

and the authority of the Durbar has, in consequence, suffered to such an extent, that, except under compulsion, it is quite disregarded by the Bheels, who resort to violence in disputes which a fair and impartial hearing would speedily adjust."

36. The Reports by Colonel Mackenzie and Captain Battye, who hold respectively the posts of 1st and 2nd Assistant Political Agent, give much valuable information regarding the Bheels in the hilly tracts, which they superintend in addition to their positions as Commandant and 2nd in Command of the Bheel Corps.

37. The information given by the Political Agent regarding the Land Revenue of Meywar is also instructive.

In lands sown with grain the Durbar rent is taken in kind, the assessment varying from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the produce.

On higher cultivation the rent is paid in money at the following rates:—

Opium ...	...	Rs. 8 to 10 per beegah.
Sugarcanes	...	" 5 to 6 "
Cotton ...	...	" 4 to 5 "
Garden produce	...	" 2 to 3 "

38. In June 1868 the large reservoirs for which Meywar is famous stood quite 15 feet below their average. The failure of last monsoon, of course, caused their still further desiccation, and considerable crops were raised in the area exposed by the receding waters. His Highness's attention has been drawn to the necessity of repairing these great works, especially the Debur Lake, but no actual work has yet been commenced.

39. In September and October an actual scarcity of food was felt, but the Durbar, acting on the advice of the Political Agent, immediately removed restrictions and opened the State granaries; the relief was immediate. Much charity was also dispensed by this Durbar. The famine has been less severe in Meywar than in many other States, but the people have also received far more consideration than in some situations where help was even more urgently needed.

40. In Oodeypore the germ of a good school has some time existed, but has been sadly in want of supervision. Colonel Hutchinson, by a very judicious arrangement, has now secured this, and I have hopes that the institution may yet be a credit to the capital of Meywar.

41. Colonel Hutchinson reports that the two Jails at Oodeypore, containing about 120 prisoners, are fairly managed and the prisoners employed on road-making.

PERTABGHUR.

42. At the commencement of the year, under the evil influences of two Mahomedan advisers, the affairs of this State became somewhat disordered; but it is hoped that they are now in a fair condition under the management of Oonkar Bias, a respectable person, long connected with the Rutlam State.

43. In this State also complications exist between the Raja and his feudatories.

The Bheel population are said to be moderately under control.

This is very satisfactory, as they have until lately been amongst the most unruly of their class.

44. The conduct of the Raja in removing restrictions on the grain traffic, and generally in aiding in measures of relief, is worthy of praise.

BANSWARRA.

45. This State has been very lately reported upon in detail, and certain proposals regarding it are now before Government.

It has not suffered from the famine, which afflicted only the provinces to the north of it.

46. It may be well, however, to recapitulate that the Banswarra affairs are much disorganized, and that the Chief has incurred the severe displeasure of Government for a false accusation made against one of his feudatories, by which Government was misled into confiscating estates of the latter for a period of several months.

DOONGURPORE.

47. This State is under the special supervision of Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie, the Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, and Commandant, Meywar Bheel Corps: his Report will be found appended. The Political Agent much commends his management, and writes as follows:—

“This little State is carefully and well managed by the Chief and his Minister, Shah Nihal Chund. The State is free from debt, but the disbursements for the Sumbut year ending 30th June 1868 exceeded the income by some Rupees 38,281-2-8, against which, however, are the proceeds from ‘nuzzerana,’ interests, fines, &c., which will suffice to meet the demands of an unusually heavy expenditure.

“I had the opportunity, in marching through part of this little principality, of observing that the condition of the country and its

SHEKAWATTEE.

54. Under strong pressure from this Agency there has been much improvement in the Durbar's administration of this portion of the Jeypore territory. Captain Powlett, the officer nominated by Government to the duty of watching the dacoits in Shekawattee and on the triple border, has worked very earnestly. At first he was most seriously thwarted by the Jeypore Police and officials in the province; later, the Durbar, aroused by the attention attracted to the state of affairs by his Reports, have exerted themselves, and done in a few months more than has been accomplished for years before. There is, however, reason to fear that high officials, both in the province and in Jeypore, have benefitted by the ill-gotten plunder which finds its way into Shekawattee, and nothing short of a long-continued exertion will produce any permanent improvement.

55. The Durbar had long refused to acknowledge the succession to the Seekur Chiefship until a nuzzerana was paid. This claim was disputed, on the plea that it was against custom. The matter has been amicably settled by the payment of Rupees 1,75,000, to be liquidated in three years.

56. The Seekur estate is very well administered under the management of Mokund Singh, who has given great assistance to Captain Powlett from the commencement. A competent tutor has been engaged for the young Chief.

57. The great praise which the young Chief of Khetree has gained from the Political Agent and from the Government of India has, perhaps, in some measure turned his head. He has during the year absented himself from his estate, living at different places in British territory. Loud complaints of oppression and bad management have been made to the Durbar and to the Political Agent, but it is asserted that a competent manager has now been appointed. Ill health is reported to be the reason of this prolonged absence, but I do not feel certain that there is not some other cause at work.

Water is not so close to the surface in Khetree as in other parts of Jeypore, and it has suffered proportionately more from the famine.

58. A serious dispute between the Durbar and the Chief of Bussao has been amicably settled by the payment of a nuzzerana of Rupees 40,000.

59. The Chiefs of Mulseesur, Chowkerec, and Nowulghur in Shekawattee have been found guilty of active participation in dacoity of the worst species.

Their estates have been confiscated, with an implied promise that they will be ultimately restored. This undefined sentence appeared to me objectionable in principle, but is considered politic by the Durbar and the Political Agent, as, in the event of an unalterable sentence being passed, it was anticipated that the criminals would go into outlawry and commit damage.

EDUCATION IN JEYPORE.

60. The state of the Durbar Schools is stationary since last Report. There are 294 schools with 7,720 scholars, who are studying as below :—

English	...	...	142
Hindee and Sanscrit	...	...	6,448
Oordoo and Persian	...	...	1,130

The Chief of Chomoo has established a school, in which he takes much interest; he is himself fond of literature.

61. The state of the Jeypore Central Jail is at present most creditable to the Durbar and to all concerned in its management. His Highness the Maharaja is to be complimented on the attention which has been paid to this institution, one which is too often a disgrace to Native Administrations.

62. The portion of the Agra and Ahmedabad Road passing through Jeypore for a distance of 125 miles is on the point of completion. It is a work of which every one connected with it may be proud, as the first important line of communication in Rajpootana.

63. A public garden on a very large scale has been commenced in a situation which will make it a grand ornament to the city.

The city of Jeypore is cared for and improved far beyond any other native capital with which I am acquainted.

The Durbar Public Works grant for the neighbourhood of the city alone was about $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of Rupees, which was nearly all expended.

64. In the first eight paragraphs of his Report, and again in paragraph 126, Major Beynon records the very high opinion he entertains of the personal abilities of His Highness the Maharaja, and of the manner in which the Jeypore Government is carried on. Compared with the other Native States in Rajpootana, there is very much to

admire in the Jeypore Administration. It is an administration that looks beyond its own borders and beyond its own traditions for the models of its institutions. Maharaja Ram Singh believes in the good of civilization, and, as Major Beynon states, forms his own opinions and maintains them; but we must not be led into thinking that the condition of the city of Jeypore is the condition of the State generally. The outlying districts are not yet touched by progress. The advancement of Jeypore is principally due to the supervision of His Highness and one or two of his counsellors, and is not sufficiently systematic to have a very wide range. I believe that the weakest part of the administration is that of the land revenue, and this is the branch which is most important to the mass of the people.

MARWAR.

65. The first 23 paragraphs of Colonel Brooke's Report is devoted to a painfully accurate account of the Marwar famine, in which he describes that on no former occasion has such a failure of grain and forage been simultaneous, and that the area of distress is so immense, that the emigrants did not get relief in the provinces to which they were accustomed to go on the occasion of the partial failure of rain to which Marwar is subject. The increased cultivation of the poppy is said to have rendered Malwa, the traditional refuge of the Marwarees, less valuable to them than it formerly was.

The Raja of Rutlam is eulogized by the Political Agent for the kindness with which he treated the emigrants.

66. Colonel Brooke estimates that, in consequence of deaths and of families not returning to their homes, Marwar will lose this year one quarter of its population; and that the loss of horned cattle will amount to three-fourths of the total stock.

67. The deputation of a Native Agent to Jeysulmere to keep open the grain trade between Scinde and Marwar was attended with great benefit; his presence gave courage to traders. The Jeysulmere Chief throughout behaved well, and the result was that 35,085 camel-loads of grain passed through Jeysulmere from Scinde to Marwar between November and April.

68. The statement made by the Political Agent in paragraph 18 is so serious that I quote it in full:—

“For the alleviation of the distress in Marwar no Public Works were undertaken by the Maharaja, nor was any assistance given either

to the poor of the city, or to the ryots in the Crown villages. They were, perhaps, the only ryots who were utterly unneared for. The Hakims and Revenue Officers squeezed the last penny from them, and when the great emigration took place, the Customs Agent at the Deysoorie Pass, before letting them pass, not only forced from them the cesses due for the year, but also a cattle tax for each head of kine taken out of the country, though the departure was forced by the seasons. It is but justice to say that this mode of getting money was reprobated throughout Rajpootana."

The Maharaja, it is true, has granted a large subsidy for the main communication through Marwar, and the work is being organized; but the personal care and attention which would have saved thousands has been quite wanting.

69. Such was the scarcity of forage in Jodhpore itself, that, when wheat was procurable at six seers per rupee, grass was only procurable at $5\frac{1}{2}$.

A liberal offer was made by the Nawab of Khyrpore in Seinde to receive the Maharaja's cattle during the famine, but was not accepted; in consequence nearly the whole stud of horses and horned cattle are dead, and it is believed that many lakhs of rupees will be required to replace them.

70. The stagnation of government which has been noticed in former Reports continued, whilst the combination of the Thakoors against the Darbar increased during the beginning of the year. In October hostilities commenced between the parties, and shortly after the principal Thakoors addressed Government asking for our intervention. Government, in December, directed me to repair to Jodhpore, and, if possible, to accommodate the differences between the Thakoors and the Maharaja, stating that, if either party failed to act with reasonable forbearance, armed intervention would be resorted to when the famine had passed.

71. With the very able assistance of Colonel Brooke I negotiated an agreement with the Maharaja which has been approved by Government.

Up to this time His Highness has not fulfilled its conditions, and the improvement in the administration is excessively small.

72. I quote below paragraph 33 of the Political Agent's Report, in which I concur: it will show the degraded condition of the governing class and the difficulties we shall have to contend with if we are forced to assume the Government of Marwar:—

"The selection was rather restricted, as the choice lay among families opposed to one another on ordinary occasions, but when in

95. The progressive value of land in Rajpootana is forcibly illustrated by the figures given in paragraph 47 of the Tonk Report, which shows that in 46 years the land revenue of that principality has doubled.

The total revenues have increased from nine lakhs in 1818 to $14\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in 1868.

BOONDEE.

96. Boondoe is described by the Political Agent "as being in a fossil condition, a living representative of Native States in the last century; apathetically indifferent to progress, and obstinately opposed to change."

Captain Bruce's account of the State, as contained in paragraphs 36 to 45 of his Report, is worthy of perusal, as illustrating very markedly the tendency of Rajpoot Administration, and showing that a Hindoo population may remain contented, though trade is almost annihilated by restrictions, though the State takes care neither to feed nor import food for its subjects, and though Public Works or public instructions are unknown, and no facility exists for communication in the State or with the outer world.

KOTAH.

97. The long-disorganized finances of this State are reported to be in course of reform by judicious reductions of establishment. The Political Agent considers that His Highness the Maharao is much to be commended on this point.

98. In Kotah, as in Boondoe, trade, especially the grain trade, was trammelled with every expedient which a vicious theory could devise. Against his own convictions His Highness the Maharao, at the assembly of the Grain Trade Conference at Ajmere, renounced all restrictions, and has subsequently acted up to the promises then made. Many circumstances combined to make this concession particularly meritorious.

99. The disposition of the Maharao of Indurghur is praised by the Political Agent. He is the first of the Khetree Chieftains, a group of Nobles, over whom the Kotah Durbar exercises a restricted control.

Certain differences between this Chief and the Kotah Durbar were accommodated by Captain Bruce with that tact he so eminently possessed. The political relations between the parties being of a precarious nature that can

only be maintained by forbearance, by compromises, and by tact, such services are very valuable.

JHALLAWAR.

100. I have received an application for the establishment of an Opium Agency at Jhalra Patun at the cost of the Durbar, which estimates the loss incurred on all opium going to Indore to be Rupees 25 to 30,000. I do not myself see how this is the case, and have called for further information.

101. I am not in a position to advise Government on the subject of the Kotah fortress of Gagrone, which is said to be a standing menace to the capital of Jhallawar.

SIROHI.

102. The outlawry of Thakoor Nathoo Singh of Buttana, a village near the foot of Aboo, and close to the main road from Rajpootana to Ahmedabad, has been the main event of the year as regards this State.

The narrative of the event is very clearly given in paragraphs 4 to 6 of the Political Superintendent's Report. This man has been in outlawry several times before, and has always in the end been resettled on his estate, the means brought to bear against him not being sufficient to effect his capture or expel him the country.

103. During the year the State has, under Captain Muir's directions, continued a firm policy towards the Grassias of the wild tract known as the Bakur.

104. The finances of Sirohi are most seriously embarrassed, and a proposal is before Government to place it under British management. It is one of those tracts of country which, under a civilized Government, would be paid for by other more favoured districts, which, under the old Indian system, would have paid itself well by the facility it afforded for defence and escape. The people would have plundered all the surrounding plains, paying a share of their booty to the Durbar and finding safety in the natural features of their home.

This mode of life being now denied to them, nothing can make Sirohi self-supporting, but a hardy, abstemious, and industrious rule, in which no money shall be wasted on show or luxury. This it does not possess, though His Highness the Rao is a well-meaning, quiet Prince.



ary 1864 to April 1869.

PUNISHMENT AWARDED.				REMARKS.
Number.	Punishment.	Fine.	Banished.	
1	...	Heeralall and Mungoo Rupees 50.	...	Transferred to Magistrate, Agra.
2	...	.....	...	Ditto ditto.
3	...	.....	...	No. 1 not present; No. 2 forwarded to Moonsurrim of Baree.
4	1 year; by one half	.....	...	Mussamut Soonder delivered to her claimants.
5	"	.....	...	Was caught selling the boy in the market-place of Dholepore for Rupees 8; all the three boys, with defendant, forwarded to the Court of Political Agent, Gwalior.
6	6 m. for each.	.....	...	Nos. 1 and 2 sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour in irons; No. 3 without irons. The Political Agent of Gwalior also addressed.

(Sd.) C. K. M. WALTER, *Capt.,*
Political Agent.

MEYWAR AGENCY REPORT.

No. 72-17P., dated 31st May 1869.

From—LIEUT.-COL. A. R. E. HUTCHINSON, Offg. Political Agent, Meywar.

To—LIEUT.-COL. R. H. KEATINGE, C.S.I., V.C., Agent, G. G., Rajpootana.

I HAVE the honor to submit a brief statement of what has occurred during the year 1868-69 in the States under this Agency.

MEYWAR.

2. During the time I have held charge of this office I have received ready attention from His Highness the Maharana and his Pordhan, Kotharee Kesree Singh, to such advice and measures as I have had occasion to offer and suggest, and my relations with the Court have been entirely harmonious, uninterrupted by counteraction or obstruction. His Highness, though addicted to pleasure, is most accessible, and I have always found him able to discuss the questions of the day with creditable intelligence; willing to introduce reforms; and, above all, to evince a marked desire to meet the wishes of the British Government and to promote the welfare of his subjects.

3. But at the same time His Highness has many difficulties to contend with in the form of Government, the rigid adherence to established custom handed down by an antiquated policy, and the absence of counsellors possessed of any weight or influence.

4. The Government is essentially a despotic one: the Maharana rules in everything, and his sanction is required before the most trivial order is carried out. The Pordhan of the State attends at the palace every day, and takes His Highness' orders on every reference or Report that requires notice. The Civil and Criminal Courts submit their proceedings for the final orders of the Maharana, and the whole machinery of Government is set in motion at the will of the Sovereign: if he feels disposed to work, business is transacted, otherwise it is deferred to a more convenient season. The references from the representative of the British Government generally take precedence of other work, and if these are important or heavy, the other work is too often set aside,—a procedure which accounts for the frequent complaints of the tardy justice of this Durbar.

5. The laws administered are those contained in the "Dhnrma Shasters," or recognized codes of the Hindoo law and ritual, which are expounded by paid law officers: this necessarily complicates the procedure of the Courts, and too often is the cause of useless and wearying discussion. I have pointed out these evils to His Highness, suggesting the advisability of the question being considered with the view to the introduction of a gradual reform, and I am happy to say that there is at last some prospect of Meywar being supplied with a simple and intelligible code of judicature; but the subject is both delicate and difficult, for the orthodox Hindoo regards his "Dhnrma Shasters" as direct revelations of the Divine will; and the sanctity that attaches to the Ranas of Oodeypore renders it almost hopeless to expect them to break through prejudices that date almost with the dynasty

6. The entire absence of counsellors possessed of weight or influence is much to be regretted. His Highness has no one about him of any respectability, and he is not on sufficiently good terms with any of the great Barons to crave for their friendship; consequently, the Maharana associates with a few favourites, who are not worthy of the favour that they receive.

7. Amongst these is Rao Zalim Singh, a dissipated and dissolute character, but who has acquired some influence over the young Chief, which, it is to be feared, he does not always use to the honor of the Prince. I have not failed to point out to His Highness in a quiet and friendly way the injury he did himself, and the damage he exposed both himself and his Government to, by the undue influence that this person was allowed to possess and exercise; and that he would find it impossible to establish the strong Government which the state of the country and the attitude of the Nobles absolutely demanded as long as it was known that orders and measures were not emanations from the fountain head, but those of the favourites of the day.

8. Zalim Singh acquired a footing at a time when the Meywar Government was dislocated and without a Minister; he was appointed chief of the Moywar detective Police in 1867, and over this body Zalim Singh exercises control independent of the Minister, who, however, has the management of the Police on the Neemuch and Nusseerabad road under his order and control.

9. As an ordinary person, Zalim Singh, perhaps, would not have attracted the attention he now does, but as the father of Rao Ummer Singh, his position and influence at Court has excited the suspicions of half of the Nobles of Meywar. The story of Rao Ummer Singh is one of the romances in real life which unhappily are too common in Meywar.

10. An ascetic, who after patiently braving the inclemency of the seasons for a whole twelvemonth under a tree, has suddenly acquired a most extraordinary influence over the young Maharana, who has elevated this individual to the dignity of spiritual guide, with apartments in the palace, much to the annoyance of Kotharee Kesree Singh and the whole Court, who see that their Chief is in a fair way to be duped, but dare not tell him so.

11. The recognition of Kotharee Kesree Singh, as conveyed in your letter No. 368P. of 1868, was the cause of real gratification to the Maharana. His Highness told me that he had given up hope of seeing the innocence of his servant established, and that it had afforded him the greatest pleasure in being able to tell the Kotharee that the ban to his employment as Minister had been removed; and I must say that the solution of this intricate question was viewed with satisfaction, combined with a sensation of relief, by the Nobles and people of Meywar, with whom the Kotharee is popular; all rejoiced to see an old servant of the State restored to office, and not a rumour of dissent has reached me from even his rivals.

12. Kesree Singh is a hard-working, and, I believe, conscientious servant of the State; he is an able financier, and qualified in every respect for the responsible post he occupies. I have always found that he carries out the orders of the Durbar in their integrity; but he is not inclined to a liberal policy, and clings to an antiquated revenue system which tends to impoverish the people.

13. An attempt was made during the minority to improve the system, and the country was leased to farmers, but these were Durbar officials, and the consequence was, that in 1865 they were all defaulters, with outstanding balances against them amounting to nearly six lakhs of rupees; the leases were all annulled, and the country restored to "kham" or direct management. A summary settlement with the heads of villages for three years was then tried in five pergunnalis, with the view to emancipate the zemindars from the thrall of Durbar interference; but this measure, though approved of by His Highness, was not to the liking of the Raj officials, and, according to their statements, not popular with the people, and on expiry of the term there was no attempt made to renew the experiment.

14. The revenue system is simple and primitive. The village lands are assigned to holders, who, though enjoying certain proprietary rights, are required to furnish security for the amount of the Government demand, which is—

Rupees	8 to 10	per beegah on	opium.
"	5 to 6	" "	" sugar.
"	4 to 5	" "	" cotton.
"	2 to 3	" "	" garden produce.

15. Lands producing food grains are free from money payments, but the Government take their share, which varies in districts from one-fourth to one-third and to a half of the produce. This system is open to many abuses, but it is suited to the country and its people; it is advantageous to the Government as bringing in a large rent for land, and popular because the cultivator has it in his power to subsist on the produce before the harvest.

16. Kotharee Kesree Singh has ordered a census of the kingdom to be taken. This is an innovation, and the order is resisted by the Nobles and the managers of religious and charitable endowments. At present there is no reliable information as to the extent and value of the Meywar possessions, but the gross revenues may be put down at—

	Rupees.
The Crown	29,00,000
... of Nobles	16,00,000
Charitable and Religious	3,50,000
Total	<u>48,50,000</u>

17. The revenue is collected under six heads:

Land Revenue	(Khalsa).
Customs	(Sayer).
Miscellaneous	(Kherej).
Tribute from Nobles	(Chuttoond).
Succession fees and dues.	

That for the Sumbut year 1924, A. D. 1867-68, amounted to Rupees 29,63,703-6-1, the expenditure to Rupees 20,62,875-1-9; cash balances in the State Treasuries amount to Rupees 37,78,058-13-0.

18. I submit a set of Returns (Nos. 1 and 2) containing information regarding the great and lesser feudatories of Meywar, the number of villages

in their respective estates, their value, and the amount paid to the Sovereign.

19. The great feudatories are a source of weakness to the State; instead of fulfilling their feudal obligations and supporting their Chief, they have since 1766 assisted in the ruin of the principality. At the date of the Treaty with the British Government of 1818 these Chiefs had made themselves virtually independent of the Maharana, and one of the first acts of the Political Agent, who was invested with full control, was to draw up an agreement between the Maharana and his Chiefs, by which the latter bound themselves to restore all the lands they had usurped, or otherwise acquired, during the last 50 years, and to perform service for three months each year with quotas of two horsemen and four foot soldiers for every Rupees 1,000 of their revenue. The immediate result of this arrangement was to raise the revenues of the State, which in 1819 were only Rupees 4,41,218, to Rupees 8,77,634 in 1821, and it is much to be regretted that the measure was not then guaranteed by the British Government. However, in 1821 the minute interference of the Political Agent was withdrawn, and in 1827 a new agreement was considered necessary, and one was framed by Captain Cobbe: this document, however, was not executed until 1839, when it was signed by the contracting parties and countersigned by the Political Agent as witness of its having been duly executed in his presence. In 1840 a third agreement was signed, only to be replaced by another five years later. Within ten years disputes were as violent as ever, culminating in 1850, when the Maharana and his Chiefs applied for the mediation of the British Government. In 1854 a new agreement was negotiated, but only to share the fate of its predecessors in being inoperative. The guarantee of the protection of the British Government was, however, extended to the Chiefs who had signed the agreement, *viz.*, Mehta Shere Singh, the Raos of Dcoghur, Bhynsrorehur, and Kanore.

20. The whole of these Chiefs almost are now semi-independent: their attendance at the Dussera is, I may say, nominal; they make no reports of occurrences, resent any interference in civil or criminal cases, and too often insult the Durbar with their proud and defiant bearing.

21. To illustrate the position of these Chiefs towards their suzerain and the policy that has been observed by the Durbar, I will cite a few instances: the first is the story of Rao Ummer Singh, who, on the occasion of the death in 1857 of Rao Pirthee Singh of Amait, was adopted and acknowledged as his successor. However, before the negotiations for the usual "kaid" (fees) on "tulwar bundhai" (investiture of fief) had been completed, a Court intrigue procured a decision in favour of Chutter Singh, a rival claimant, who, armed with an order from the Durbar to the officer in command of the attaching party at Amait, proceeded to that place and forcibly ejected Ummer Singh and the family of the late Rao, killing his brother, Puddum Singh, and two Sirdars, and wounding others; the widow fled to the shrine of Chutterbhooj, from whence she addressed petitions to the Agent of the Governor General and the Political Agent, detailing the events and praying for justice. The orders passed on these petitions are, that the Political authorities could not interfere in such cases, and recommended the petitioner to lay her case before the Durbar.

The cause of Ummer Singh was espoused by the Rao of Sulloomber and other influential Nobles, who addressed the Governor General of India direct on the subject. His Highness the Maharana was also disposed in favour of Ummer Singh, whom he invested as Rao of Amait and conferred the dignity of Rao with a pension. Chutter Singh, however,

NOTE.—This petition was acknowledged on the 12th May 1838 by the Under-Secretary to the Government of India, in the Foreign Department, but further than this no notice seems to have been taken.

remained in possession, but to this day he has not paid the investiture fees, fixed at Rupees 1,10,000, nor the tribute due to the State, and it is not probable that, with the uncertainty that hangs over his tenure of Amait, he will ever be able to raise money. The revenues of the estate are absorbed in paying extra troops, for Amait is in a state of sort of siege, and every precaution is taken to guard against surprise.

22. Next is the Doongurmow case. As far back as May 1835 operations were commenced against these Chiefs, who were in the habit of sallying from their hilly fastnesses and committing depredations on their neighbours, and a party of the troops of Holkar, Seindiah, and those of the Rana of Oodeypore were placed under the direction of a British officer and sent against the offenders. After a slight resistance their stronghold was captured, and Ajeet Singh and his two brothers expelled from that part of the country.

No. 701 of 1812, from Secretary,
Government of India, to Agent,
Governor General.

In 1842 the Meywar Durbar made a reference on behalf of the survivor, Ajeet

Singh, and the Government of India sanctioned the Thakoor's restoration to his possessions. It seems that Ajeet Singh first adopted Tej Singh as his successor, and afterwards Khooman Singh of Bijepore, who, it appears, was invested by the late Rana, and succeeded to the estates on Ajeet Singh's death, and remained unmolested in possession until 1859, when a Court intrigue got Tej Singh into favour, and he was enabled to eject his rival; but again losing possession, he appears before the Meywar Regency Council for redress: this body decided in his favour, and the

No. 609 of 1863, 11th June, to
Political Agent.

proceedings received confirmation of the Agent of the Governor General in September 1862, and in 1863 the Council were

addressed in view to the original order being carried out without further delay. After much hesitation and demur on part of the Durbar Tej Singh was installed in the Chiefship in 1864, to be ejected immediately afterwards by Khooman Singh, who effected his object aided by the armed force of the Bijepore Chief. The files show that repeated references have been made to the Durbar by the Political Agent in behalf of Tej Singh, but further than a promise dated October 1865, that the case should be disposed of in consultation with the Chiefs of Meywar, nothing seems to have been done, and Tej Singh himself apparently has given up his case as hopeless.

23. In 1862 Rawnt Kesree Singh of Sulloomber died, and a distant relative of the deceased, named Jodh Singh, was by certain members of his family elected to succeed him, and in defiance of local custom and the wishes of the Durbar, he obtained possession of the Chiefship. The Durbar were in favour of the rightful inheritor, Rao Bhopal Singh of Bhudaiser, but doubting their ability to enforce this decision against the pretensions of Jodh Singh, who was in actual possession, they applied to the Political Agent for the armed intervention of the

British Government. Both the Political Agent and the Agent of the Governor General put themselves in communication with the Military authorities with the view to their holding themselves in readiness to supply the necessary amount of military force for the coercion of the dominant Chief and the enforcement of the decision of the Durbar; but the Government of India declined to sanction the employment of a force, and the Political Agent was instructed to impress upon the Durbar and its assembled feudatories that the British Government was not disposed to relieve them of their obligations in supporting the position and credit of the Oodeypore Durbar, and that, as a preliminary to any direct interposition of the forces of the British Government, it was necessary to obtain the deliberate and positive opinion of the feudatories as to their unanimity or the reverse on the question of the Suloomber succession.

This resulted in an arrangement by which Jodh Singh was confirmed in possession of the Chiefship, paying a fine of two lakhs of rupees, with succession to Rao Bhopal Singh in the event of Jodh Singh dying childless.

24. The Deoghur Chief succeeded to the estates on the death, in September 1867, of his father, Rao Rnnjeet Singh; but to this day he has not appeared at the capital to tender allegiance to his Sovereign, preferring the ruinous cost of an imposing party, which will remain at Deoghur until the Chief appears, to any appearance of submission to the Durbar demands for the usual succession fees.

25. The Rao of Kotharia's conduct in November 1865 has already been reported. On that occasion he would not allow the camp of the Agent of the Governor General to be pitched at his village of Neemonah, actually threatening to cut down servants of the British Government if they persisted in the attempt.

This Chief is also under the displeasure of the British Government for harbouring the outlaw Ajeet Singh; two of his richest villages have been confiscated, and an imposing party, "Dhous," costing Rupees 450 per mensem, is also billeted on Kotharia.

26. The Rao of Bhynsroreghur has lately fallen under the displeasure of the Durbar for ignoring references made at the instance of this Office in behalf of the family of one Kurun Mull, late in the service of the Rao, but who had absconded without settling accounts, who, the petitioner averred, were exposed to indignities out of revenge. The first reference was made on 2nd July last, and the Durbar Vakeel asked for a Report of the circumstances. Reminders were sent in August, October, and January, but without effect. The Durbar then sent a horseman, who was told to leave; a similar messenger was also turned away; and at last, on the confiscation of a village, the Rao condescended to reply in March last.

27. The policy of the British Government towards this State has been one of non-interference in the intestine disputes of the Maharana and his refractory Chiefs. I will not stop here to enquire whether or not the present state of the country is attributable to such practice, for the recent orders of the Government of India contain the admission that "for the future some amount of interference is not only actually necessary, but that it is to be exercised by the Political authorities in adjusting, as they arise, the various disputes occurring between a

No. 1353, dated 19th August 1863,
from Foreign Secretary, to Agent,
Governor General.

for protecting 138 miles of road, viz., 93 miles of the Neemuch and Nussereabad line, and 45 miles of that between Oodeypore and Neemuch, averaging Rupees 631-12-6 per mile.

30. There have, however, been two most serious cases connected with the said Police: 1st, the murder by Sowar Dewa Singh of a Buniya, whom he was escorting, and the plunder of his property consisting of some Rupees 600. I am in correspondence with the Resident at Hyderabad regarding a clue I have obtained of the whereabouts of this ruffian. 2nd, the criminal breach of trust displayed by Jemadar Nubbee Bakhsh, who was sent to arrest Dewa Singh, but disgracefully allowed him to escape. This individual has been sentenced to nine years' imprisonment.

31. But though the precautions taken to guard the Government mails have proved successful, it does not follow that the Police in other parts of Meywar are equally efficient, or that there is that security to life and property that ought to exist, for during the year under report no less than 85 cases have been brought before the Political Agent, in which subjects of Meywar are charged with heinous crimes and aggressions on neighbouring States. These cases may be classified—

Theft	...	...	...	...	26
Killing and wounding	...	...	...	...	12
Highway robbery	...	...	...	...	21
Highway robbery with wounding	...	...	...	...	13
Poisoning, mutilation, and ill-treatment	...	...	...	...	13
					<hr/> 85

Of these cases—

- 56 are still under investigation,
- 24 have been dismissed or disposed of, and
- 5 proclamations have been issued for capture of culprits.

32. In addition to the above are 20 serious cases, the majority of which have been disposed of by the Durbar without the intervention of the Political Agent. The bulk of these cases consist of murders from motives of jealousy or revenge; there are one suttee, and two attempts to commit suttee, which were frustrated by Government officials; two cases of mutilating females by cutting off their noses; and three dacoities, all of which may be characterized as daring and dangerous outrages. As an instance, I will briefly notice the dacoity that occurred in October last, when the Thakoor of Peepleen, Rao Luchmun Singh, his relations, Oonkar Singh and Deep Singh, were murdered in their sleep, and three others wounded, one of whom died the following day. Three individuals were captured, Hemraj Brahmin, Luchmundass Byragee, and Rorejee Chundrawat, the former in Holkar's town of Munassa, and in his deposition taken by the local authorities this man describes how a band of Moghias were retained for the job; how the walls of the little fort were sealed during the night; and how the victims were pointed out and slain. He also implicates certain Holkar's subjects, the Thakoors Bukhtawur Singh, Fouj Singh, Deep Singh, Oonkar Singh, and Humeer Singh of Peepleen, relatives of the deceased, and a Jemadar of Moghia's, Rama of Simondree Jowra and his band, who undertook and perpetrated the deed, in reward for which the gang had the plunder of the murdered Thakoor's property. The Durbar acting on this information, at once caused the arrest of the relatives who were implicated, and I have made a formal demand for the surrender of those of Holkar's subjects who are implicated, and also for the Jemadar Rama and his band, who, however, are stated to have left the village of Simondree.

33. Meywar and the Gwalior and Tonk Districts under this Agency are infested by a race of professional dacoits, called Baorees and Moghias. These men possess camels; they are well armed, and invariably mature their plans and organize their expeditions with an amount of skill that commands success that has established their reputation as fearless and cruel plunderers, and made them so formidable, that the Native Governments are seriously considering measures for their suppression.

34. I have drawn up some regulations and laws for the end in view, which have received the approval of the Meywar and Tonk Durbars, and I am waiting the reply of Scindiah's Vakcel before enforcing them.

35. The regulations in question will empower the local authorities to register all Moghias residing in their districts, to require that they cultivate land, and not to leave the village without the permission of the head man on any pretext whatever, to deprive them of the camels, compensating them with value in bullocks and agricultural implements, and to disarm them, giving compensation for value of arms taken.

36. The laws refer to the penalties for evading these rules, and are based on the provisions of the Indian Penal Code, Section 390, Robbery and Dacoity.

37. The condition of the Bheels in the hilly tracts of Meywar is not satisfactory; these wild tribes have of late been so unruly, that the Durbar, owing to the representations of their manager in the hilly tracts that he was utterly incapable of preserving order, or of exercising any authority over them, unless some punishment was inflicted on one or two of the most unruly communities, have been compelled to adopt

measures to assert its power in the punishment of the most defiant and refractory Pals.

38. The Government has been weak, and, instead of summary and immediate punishment being meted out, action has been deferred generally from want of means for inflicting chastisement being at hand, until the Bheel, emboldened by the apparent apathy of the Rulers, commits new excesses, and thereby adds to the score of which he knows that one day there will be a reckoning.

39. In September last, hearing of the excesses of these clans, I suggested the reinforcement of all the posts in the hilly tracts in view to operations being commenced against them, but, before proceeding to extremities, advised an attempt being made to get in the leaders, to tell them plainly that they would be severely punished, unless offenders were surrendered and plundered property restored, and also, that hostages would be required to ensure the fulfilment on their part of the demands of the Durbar. The Durbar manager, however, without any show of force, attempted the negotiation, which, of course, failed.

40. From the Returns for the year ending July 1868, there are no less than 52 cases against these Bheels, in 26 of which blood was shed in addition to property and cattle carried off; and those from July 1868 down to date show 62 raids and reprisals, in 24 of which blood was shed.

41. Colonel Mackenzie is of opinion that the present unsatisfactory state of these tribes is entirely owing to the mismanagement of "a succession of utterly inefficient Hakims or Governors, and grasping corrupt Kamdars, who have dissipated all trust or confidence in their honesty or justice, and the authority of the Durbar has, in consequence, suffered to such an extent, that, excepting under compulsion, it is quite disregarded by the Bheels."

42. I have discussed the subject with His Highness, who seems anxious to remedy the evils, and also to initiate measures for the amelioration of these wild tribes; but the question is not an easy one, for somehow the officials of Native Governments want the tact, patience, and honesty that is required to manage these people. His Highness, however, proposes, after the re-establishment of his authority in the Bheel tracts, to manage the district direct, reserving to himself alone the power to fine and punish.

43. This measure would certainly be an improvement on the policy hitherto adopted, but, in my opinion, it would be neither as effective nor simple as to increase the powers of the Political Superintendent and make him the political medium of intercourse between the Durbar and its Bheel subjects: this measure would guard the Bheels from injustice and oppression, and be the means of ameliorating their condition. That these ends would be gained, I am confident, and in support of my opinion I would point to the condition of the Bheels in the States of the Bhoomia Chiefs, who are described as being happy and contented, because it has always been the policy of the Political Superintendent to resist interference on the part of Durbar officials in the affairs of these Chiefs or their subjects.

44. The Reports of Colonel Mackenzie, Superintendent, Hilly Tracts, and of Captain Battye, Officiating 2nd Assistant Political Agent, contain information regarding the districts under the supervision of these officers; they are herewith submitted in original, and I beg to recommend them to your notice.

Appendix 3.

45. The year will be rendered memorable by the failure of the monsoon, and by the famine that afflicts the land, and also by the liberal and effective measures that have been adopted to mitigate the severity of the crisis. Chiefs and Nobles, though suffering a considerable loss in revenue, cheerfully gave up duties on grain, and their adherence to the measures proposed for the emancipation of the grain trade in Rajpootana at the Congress held at Ajmere in December last. The Meywar representative, Mehta Urjoon Singh, was instructed to concur in any measures agreed to by the representatives of the leading States, and he discharged the duty entrusted to him to your satisfaction.

46. The fall of rain in 1867 was scant, and the water in the lakes and reservoirs of Meywar stood some 15 feet below the usual level in June last. The partial and deficient fall of last year gave but a slight accession to these stores, but notwithstanding, there is an ample supply to demonstrate the incalculable value of such works, for not only have their waters nourished crops and kept the wells for miles around replenished, but their receding waves have left tracts of rich alluvium, on which splendid crops have been raised: these lands were tilled to the water's edge, and afforded the means of subsistence to hundreds, who, but for the drought, would have had no such opportunity.

47. These great works are not provided with either locks or escapes, and, consequently, no control can be exercised over the body of water. I have pointed out to the Durbar the value of such works, instancing the vast tracts of valuable alluvium made available for cultivation by the drought, and suggesting the construction of the required works on the dam of the great Debur Lake, the repairs that are required to which affording a favourable opportunity for trying the experiment. The noble store work dam that now bears the weight of a vast sheet of water (some 30 miles in circumference) has from neglect been allowed to fall into disrepair; the stones have been displaced and disrupted by trees and shrubs that have sprung up. His Highness has ordered an estimate to be prepared exhibiting cost of repairing the stone work and buttressing the whole with an earthen ramp. This has been done, but His Highness has not yet sanctioned the expenditure of Rupees 1,30,800 required for the works.

48. The failure of the monsoon, of course, affected the rain crops, which, excepting in the southern districts, were very poor; and as there was no store of grain in the country, the markets were seriously disturbed, and in the months of September and October there was great anxiety with some distress on account of the scarcity of grain, which was to be procured with difficulty; however, a liberal policy in encouraging traders, suspending duties on grain, making money advances to dealers, and in opening the State granaries, enabled the Meywar Government to tide over the crisis, and in a short time to flood the markets with abundance of grain: prices, however, remained high, wheat 8 seers for the rupee, Government weight and coin; but this did not seem to disturb either the

Government or the people. Plenty is what the latter look to, whilst it is the boast of the former that Meywar subjects do not feel famine until grain touches a higher figure.

49. The spring crops, at one time promising, were injured by rain in February and March, and the harvest was a poor one, which again disturbed the markets, the prices rising to 6 seers of wheat for the rupee. This rise was not expected; but the Durbar were prepared, and opportunely opened a relief house at the capital, and issued orders to their local and district officers to keep the State share of produce in reserve for local sale and consumption: relief houses have also been opened at Chittore, Bheelwarra, and Koomulghur, at which food (boiled Indian corn) is gratuitously given to all applicants.

50. Encouraged by the acknowledgments of the Government of India for the measures adopted to relieve the grain trade and to mitigate the distress caused by the drought and famine, the Maharana has addressed you a khurecta in which His Highness details his policy, the works sanctioned to assist the poor in providing them with labour, and the measures for relieving the indigent, and I trust that the translation of this letter will not be out of place in this Report. His Highness says—“Owing to the paucity of the rainfall of the past season, it became evident that a famine would afflict the land; on this account one-half of the transit and mappa dues on grain were remitted on Asoj Sood 1st, A. D. 17th September 1868: and again on 23rd idem the whole duty and mappa dues on grain imported into the city of Oodeypore were suspended; but seeing that these measures had not the desired effect of relieving the scarcity, the restriction to the export of grain from Meywar was removed on the 12th October, and again on the 5th November 1868, the entire transit and mappa dues on grain imported into, exported from, or passing through, Meywar territory were suspended until Assar Sood Poonam, A. D. 23rd July 1869, and orders were issued to District Officers not to interfere in any way with the grain trade. In addition, guarantees were given to many of the traders, and money advanced from the State Treasury for the purpose of purchasing grain. The Durbar have also made purchases to the extent of Rupees 35,000 worth of grain, *viz.*—

				Rs.
“From Indore	...	...	...	20,000
“ „ Edur	...	...	...	15,000

“Sums advanced to dealers for the purchase of grain, Rupees 1,05,500 as follows:—

				Rs.
“To Seth Chandun Mull	...	...	...	25,000
“ „ the Manager, Hilly Tracts, for distribution amongst traders	...	...	...	25,000
“ „ Khemraj Hookmee Chund	...	...	...	10,000
“ „ Hyder, Hubtoola, Esa, and Taj Khan	...	...	...	22,500
“ „ Ibrahim	...	...	...	11,000
“ „ Russool Borah	...	...	...	4,000
“ „ Esa and Taj Khan	...	...	...	2,000
“ „ Ramnaraen Moondra	...	...	...	5,000
“ „ Dhunraj Chowdry	...	...	...	2,000

"in all Rupees 1,40,500. In addition to this, Sunnuds have been conferred on some of the principal grain dealers of the Neemuch cantonment, remitting for ever duty on grain as follows :—

"Gungadhar Nundram remitting	$\frac{1}{2}$	usual State dues.
"Hunwant Buldeo remitting	$\frac{1}{4}$	" "
"Soojeeram Ramrutten	$\frac{1}{4}$	" "
"Ganeram Guneshrum	$\frac{1}{4}$	" "

The result of these arrangements was, that grain, which a few days previous to the Dusserah festival was scarce and difficult to procure, became abundant.

"Further, to guard against the exigencies which would arise owing to the cessation of traffic on account of scarcity of forage for beasts of burthen, the dealers were called upon to store grain to the value of Rupees 3,45,000, which was not to be sold until after the 26th April 1869 : written agreements were taken to this effect, and District Officers were directed to make similar arrangements in their respective districts.

"Further, to relieve the poor during the period of distress, managers of districts were strictly enjoined to afford every assistance by providing the people of their respective districts with grain for food and sowing, to be lenient to such cultivators who were too poor to pay the Government demand, so as to save them and their families from distress. The managers were also directed to exert themselves and to encourage cultivators to till all the available land round the lakes and near wells, and to aid them in every way. The result of these orders has been that all the lands about the lakes and wells where water was procurable were cultivated, and the spring crops produced a good harvest ; the managers were also enjoined to open relief works in their districts and to employ the able-bodied thereon.

"Relief works to the extent of 2 lakhs of rupees have been commenced upon in the city and districts.

"In the city of Oodeypore 1 lakh has been set apart for public works, affording daily employment to	...	...	...	1,178 Souls.
"In the Jehazpore districts,	...	Rs. 18,300	employing	581 "
"For the walls of Bheelwarra, estimated at Rs. 1,20,000	...	" 15,000	"	236 "
"The Chittore District	...	" 26,300	"	500 "
"Koomulghur	...	" 25,000	"	400 "
"Khemlee tank	...	" 3,200	"	350 "
"Kherwarra District	...	" 6,000	"	150 "
"Nahr Mugra	...	" 4,100	"	106 "
		97,900	"	3,501 Souls.

"In addition, Rupees 5,000 per mensem are paid towards the construction of the Meywar portion of the Mhow and Nusseerabad road.

"Rupees 25,000 were also subscribed to the charitable grain club formed at Oodeypore, and grain has been purchased and is being sold at rates cheaper than those of the markets.

"The Nobles and Jaghiredars of Meywar have also been moved to establish similar institutions for the relief of the poor.

"There are "Snda burts," or relief doles, established in the city and in the districts, where food is dispensed to all who ask for it. The following is the monthly consumption at these places :—

	No. of men.	Flour.	Grain.
"Oodeypore	3,000	56 maunds.	
"Jehazpore	400	7½ do.	
"Chittore	900	14½ do.	
"Koomulghur	550	14 do.	7½ maunds.
"Kylasporee	3,000	10 do.	32½ "
"Gudbore	400	7½ do.	

"Arrangements have also been made for the distribution of cooked food to the poor, half a seer to an adult, and ¼ of a seer to each child, and thousands of poor and helpless people are maintained every day, viz.—

"In the city of Oodeypore	...	...	7,500 Souls.
"Koomulghur	...	...	2,000 "
"Bheelwarra	...	...	700 "
"Chittore	...	...	500 "
<hr/>			
Total	...	...	10,700 Souls.

"The foregoing are the measures adopted for the relief of the poor and helpless during the distress that afflicts the land at the loss of about 2 lakhs of rupees to the State in customs and mappa dues alone, besides the future losses in the revenue by the remission of one-half and one-fourth of the duty on grain to the dealers; but this is counterbalanced by the gain to the ryots, which is an advantage.

"The income of this year will also be less and the expenditure considerably increased."

51. These measures have up to the present date been the means of averting much misery and distress and the saving of human life. I am not able to speak with certainty as to the condition of the poor in the districts, but with relief works at the great centres, those in course of construction at Bheelwarra and on the Neemuch and Nusseerabad road are reported by independent and reliable informants to afford the required aid to the population: supplemented by the gratuitous supply of food, poor though it may be, it may be fairly argued that the same care that has hitherto been bestowed on the poor in the capital has been extended to the remoter districts, and will be continued until more favourable times.

52. The Oodeypore Grain Club, to which His Highness contributed the munificent sum of Rupees 25,000, has been at work for the last three months, selling grain at rates lower than those obtainable in the markets to indigent but respectable people, who, though too proud to beg, are glad of a little assistance whilst the high prices continue: the sales of grain, however, do not exceed Rupees 100 per diem: rates, wheat 4-4 Oodeypore (Government 6 seers 6 chittacks) per rupee. Indian corn, 5-4 (Government 7-14).

The Deolce Relief Fund has received a donation of Government Rupees 1,000 from His Highness.

53. The relief-houses dispense gratuitously boiled Indian corn and parched gram to all applicants. Indian corn when boiled increases in weight and bulk 150 per cent. : the food is poor, but it is the staple of the population at the relief-house; at the capital it is dispensed with liberality to all comers, and families flock in from all directions. The labourer brings to market his bundle of grass or wood, and carries back proceeds of sale, and in addition the dole of boiled corn for as many members of his family as he can produce. The success of the measure has been established by the fact that since the opening of the relief-house at this place there has been a remarkable diminution in cases of petty theft, and the number that daily throng the approaches to the relief-house proves that it is acceptable.

54. I enclose a Return of the relief operations at the capital, showing the daily numbers and the quantity of grain dispensed from the 19th April to 31st instant inclusive. This Return exhibits the numbers of applicants relieved to be—

Appendix 4.

46,469 Men.
78,650 Women.
83,918 Children.

Total ... 209,037

Quantity of grain, maunds 849-3-6, at a cost of Rupees 6,312-5-6.

55. The operations of the "Suda burt" alluded to by His Highness are confined, as a rule, to Brahmins and religious mendicants, who are continually travelling about the country, visiting shrines, and making pilgrimages. These people absorb the charity of the State and of individuals. To feed them is considered meritorious, whilst the real poor are left to die of starvation.

Education.

56. The school at Oodeypore is maintained at a cost of Government Rupees 327 per mensem, and is attended by some 474 pupils, of whom 29 are girls.

57. The education that is imparted at this institution is not first class, and there is great room for improvement; but I am in hopes that the arrangement I have effected of combining the appointment of Deputy Opium Agent with the charge of the English school will be the means of introducing some better instruction than Oodeypore has hitherto enjoyed.

58. Mr. Ingels, the new Deputy Opium Agent, has been at the head of the Sehore High School for many years, and he has gladly acceded to my proposal of supervising the Oodeypore School in addition to his other duties.

Dispensaries.

59. The dispensaries at the capital have been much frequented, and afforded relief during the year 1868 to 5,454 patients, at a cost of Rupees 3,232-15-4.

A charge of murder of a Government mail runner was brought against one of the soldiers of the Tonk State, and the case was tried in the Meywar International Court, who, after a careful investigation, found that the charge could not be sustained, and the prisoner was discharged:

International Court.

96. The following Statement gives the number of cases and of appeals made to the higher Court :—

Cases undecided on 1st April 1868.	Filed up to 31st March 1869.	Total.	Decided during year.	Balance undecided, 31st March 1869.	CASES APPEALED.		
					Decision confirmed.	Reversed.	Pending decision.
125	36	161	93	68	3	1	5

Amount of decrees paid.

		<i>Rs.</i>	<i>a.</i>	<i>p.</i>	
By Meywar	...	28,531	8	9	97. During the year Rupees 30,259-8-9 have been paid by me to plaintiffs on account of the Court's decrees.
„ Neembahera	...	1,620	0	0	
„ Banswarra	...	108	0	0	

Balances due to Treasurer.

98. The following are the sums due to the Agency Treasurer on account of advances made for awards :—

		<i>Rs.</i>	<i>a.</i>	<i>p.</i>
Meywar	...	4,484	8	0
Neembahera	...	3,180	5	9
Pertabghur	...	1,150	0	0
Jodhpore	...	3,906	0	0
Total	...	12,720	13	9

Post Offices.

99. The following are the Post Offices in Meywar :—

Oodeypore.	Chittore.
Kherwarra.	Bheelwarra.
Kotra.	Shahpoora.

the three first being under the Post-master General, Bombay, and the latter under the North-Western Provinces.

Staging Bungalows.

100. The Staging Bungalows on the Mhow and Nusseerabad road are under the charge of the Political Agent, as also those on the Neemuch and Ahmedabad line.

Electric Telegraph.

101. The nearest Telegraph Office is at Neemuch, 76 miles from Oodeypore.

APPENDIX 1.

LIST of *Meywar Nobles of 1st Class, called "Sola."*

NAMES OF CHIEFS.	Name of Estate.	Number of Villages.	Revenue.	Amount of Chuttoo paid to Durbar.	Remarks by Durbar.	REMARKS.
			<i>Rs. a. p.</i>	<i>Rs. a. p.</i>		
Raj Keerut Singh	Burco Sadro	63	11,503 0 0	1,000 0 0		
Rao Jukht Singh	Deola	50	31,070 0 0	4,500 0 0		
Rawat Jodh Singh	Kothareen	57	18,803 0 0	1,500 0 0		
" Jodh Singh	Suloomber	20	81,000 0 0	.....	
Rao Suvaco Govind Dass	Beojolea	71	25,500 0 0	3,500 0 0		
Rawat Kishen Singh	Deoghur	76	72,000 0 0	7,000 0 0		
" Suvaco Mugh Singh	Boysoon	136	53,501 4 0	0,100 0 0		
Raj Futeh Singh	Dhwanra	69	43,107 0 0	0,000 0 0		
Rawat Chatter Singh	Analt	33	32,315 0 0	4,100 0 0		
Raj Main Singh	Gogonda	29	23,310 0 0	2,500 0 0		
Rawat Ommed Singh	Kanoro	41	21,200 0 0	3,100 0 0		
Maharaj Ituncer Singh	Bhendur	63	30,000 0 0	4,000 0 0		
Rathore Partab Singh	Budnoro	60	48,180 0 0	4,000 0 0		
Rawat Main Singh	Haraco	54	7,000 0 0	500 0 0		
" Anur Singh	Bhynoreghur	110	45,855 0 0	7,500 0 0		
Rao Lachmun Singh	Parsoleo	30	0,000 0 0	000 0 0		
" Rattan Singh	Korabur	40	29,113 0 0	.....	
Rawat Khooman Singh	Asced	33	40,119 0 0	1,300 0 0		
Maharaj Sumrut Singh	Haroro	29	30,203 0 0	1,500 0 0		
" Soorut Singh	Kurjaleo	10	5,333 0 0	250 0 0		
" Gaj Singh	Sooruteo	20	13,050 0 0	.....	
Kaka Sohan Singh	Asaholeo	2	7,500 0 0	.....	
Raja Gobind Singh	Bunera	03	49,116 0 0	0,000 0 0		
" Dheera Lachmun Singh	Shakoori	03	34,100 0 0	3,500 0 0		
	Total	1,312	7,77,503 1 0	63,150 0 0		

A relative of the Maharana; sits before the throne on State occasions.

These Chiefs are relatives of the Maharana, and on State occasions are seated before the throne.

APPENDIX 3.

No. 68P., dated 30th March 1869.

From—LIEUT.-COL. A. M. MACKENZIE, Poltl. Supdt., Hilly Tracts, Meywar.

To—LIEUT.-COL. A. R. E. HUTCHINSON, Offg. Poltl. Agent, Meywar.

WITH reference to your letter No. 17, dated the 11th January, I have the honor to submit a Report on the districts under my charge.

2. In the first Annual Report on Meywar no general description of the Hilly Tracts was given; I shall, therefore, supply the deficiency as briefly as possible before I allude to the ordinary subjects on which information is desired.

Position of the Hilly Tracts of Meywar.

3. That portion of Meywar bearing the denomination of "The Hilly Tracts," and which is under the jurisdiction of the Political Superintendent at Kherwarra, comprises the country south from Oodeypore to the confines of the Mahee Kanta, and east from the border of the Doongurpore territory to that of Sirohi, or about 70 miles from north to south, and 100 from east to west.

Division of the Hilly Tracts.

4. The country is composed of small estates, the property of petty Rajpoot Chiefs, who are feudatories of the Rana of Oodeypore, and pay no tribute to the British Government. The feudatories are divided into two classes, comprising, in the first, the Rao of Saloomber and the Raj of Gagoonda; and in the second, the Rao of Korabur, the Raj of Jharole, the Rao of Chamund, the Thakoor of Thanah, the Rao of Jewas, the Rao of Parah, the Thakoor of Chanee, the Thakoor of Parah Thanah, the Rao of Madree, the Rao of Oghua, the Rana of Panurwa, and the Rao of Joorah.

Population.

5. The whole of this extensive country was formerly inhabited by Bheels, but the richest portion of it having been wrested from them in conquest by the Rajpoots, they, the Bheels, confine themselves at the present day principally to the neighbourhood of the hills and jungles. The population, therefore, may now be said to comprise Bheels, Rajpoots, and Grassees: the first class, however, very much preponderates. As no attempt at a census has ever been made, it is quite impossible to give even an approximate estimate of the population.

Cultivation and productions of the country.

6. In consequence of the Bheels having been deprived of the most fruitful parts of these tracts, they have become as a race more wild and savage than they otherwise would have been; they cultivate in the rainy season for their year's expenditure, their staple commodity of food being Indian corn. In addition to this, flax, kooree, til, oord, mal, rice, and here and there huldce and ginger, are sown in the rains. In the cold weather, wheat, barley, gram, sirsa, and sugarcane are pretty extensively cultivated by the Rajpoots, and of late years by the Bheels also, and, generally speaking, they produce very fine crops.

Extent of country cultivated.

7. As a large portion of the Hilly Tracts comprises hills and ground of a rocky sterile nature, I am of opinion that not more than one-third, or even one-fourth, of the whole country is ever cultivated. There is, however, much reclaimable land, which is at the present day covered with brushwood and the densest jungles, and which could be easily rendered cultivable, if the wants of the population demanded it.

Mineral Ores and Mines.

8. There is no doubt but that mineral ores of many descriptions are to be found in the Hilly Tracts, as the beds of the small streams exhibit rocks interlarded with both iron and copper: gold has also been found in small quantities, but it is doubtful whether the produce would repay the expense of labour. The only mines known of are those at the now desolated, but formerly populous, village of Jawur, which is about 25 miles from Oodeypore on the direct road to Kherwarra. These mines were in olden times a matter of celebrity, and for ages formed the main source of revenue to the Sovereigns of Meywar. They contain zinc, silver, and other ores, and were extensively worked till the great famine of A. D. 1812-13, which depopulated all the "ryot" villages, and with them Jawur.

Administration of Justice.

9. The Civil Administration in the Hilly Tracts is in the hands of the Durbar, under the general supervision of the Political Superintendent, to whom the "Muggra ka-Hakin," or Native Governor, reports all criminal cases; but as their investigation rests with the Durbar officials, the system, as stated by my predecessor, Colonel Brooke, results in "a constant struggle between the Native Government seeking to oppress the Bheels, and the Superintendent of Kherwarra to protect them." A succession of utterly inefficient "Hakims" or Governors, and grasping and corrupt Kamdars has dissipated all trust and confidence in their honesty and justice, and the authority of the Durbar has, in consequence, suffered to such an extent, that, except under compulsion, it is quite disregarded by the Bheels, who resort to violence in disputes which a fair and impartial hearing would speedily adjust. Native Governments, as a rule, altogether fail to manage Bheels, and this, I think, is attributable to their systematic assumption of disbelief in the possession, by these wild tribes, of ordinary human attributes and reasoning faculties. That such is very far from being a true and just estimate of this oppressed race, is fully proved by the intelligence and tractability of the men of the Meywar Bheel Corps, who, as a body, not only give little or no trouble, but evince a thoroughly subordinate spirit and an exemplary desire to acquire a knowledge of the duties required of them, which shows that the turbulent and rebellious conduct complained of by the Durbar officials is, to a great extent, the result of their own injudicious and unjust measures.

10. I should mention that the Bheels on the Bhoomia estates in the Kherwarra District have almost entirely relinquished their predatory habits; they are much more peaceably disposed and under control than those of the "khalsa" (Crown) Pals and villages. There are many reasons for this. Primarily, the good influence of the men of the corps

has inculcated habits of industry and a reliance on the justice of European officers, to whom they can at all times appeal, through their Chiefs, with confidence that their grievances will receive prompt attention, and they are not subject to the exactions and tyranny of the Raj kamdars, as those of the khalsa Pals are, especially in the more remote districts.

This subject has, I am aware, had your serious attention, and I trust that after the Darbar has vindicated its authority by the punishment of the refractory Pals, regarding which I recently addressed you,* His Highness the Maharana may be induced to adopt a more humane and conciliatory policy towards the hill tribes.

* Letter No. 51P, dated 4th instant.

I am convinced that a few years would prove such a policy to be far more satisfactory and creditable to the State than that of coercion, which keeps up a constant antagonism between the Darbar and its subjects, disastrous in its consequences to the interests of both.

Roads.

11. The only road through the Hilly Tracts which is at all practicable for wheeled carriage is between Kherwarra and Ooderpore; that between Kherwarra and Kotra hardly deserves the name; and the other tracks are even worse. I am of opinion that, if the Darbar could be persuaded to open out a net-work of roads through the Hilly Tracts, which might be done at small expense by cutting away the dense jungle and levelling the worst parts, the result would fully repay the cost, to say nothing of the advantage of providing honest labour for the Bheels during this season of scarcity.

Revenue.

12. The revenue of the Hilly Tracts, including the estates of the feudatories before mentioned, may be estimated at between 4 and 5 lakhs, but of this sum little more than a fourth goes into the Darbar Treasury.

Rain-fall.

13. I beg to annex a Return (marked A.) of the rain-fall at Kherwarra during the year 1868. Rain fell on 40 different days, and 59.15 inches were collected. This amount is in excess of the average of the past three years, which is only 22 inches.

Harvests.

16. I annex detailed Returns (B. and C.), showing the tolls levied from travellers and on carriage, also the amount of import transit duty levied on merchandize passing through the Hilly Tracts of Meywar from Mettlhee to Oodeypore, a distance of 56 miles.

Post Offices.

17. There are Post Offices at Kherwarra and Kotra. The former is on the main line between Ahmedabad and Narmuch; the latter is a branch line from Kherwarra, from which place it is distant 55 miles. The recent visit of the Post-master General of Bombay has had the effect of accelerating the rate of transit, which, before his advent, was disgracefully slow and very irregular.

Durbar Troops.

18. The Durbar force in the Hilly Tracts consists of 180 Sowars and 511 Foot. With the exception of 40 Sowars of one of the Riscalahs raised by the late Colonel Eden for Police purposes, who are under my immediate orders, and whose duty it is to patrol the high road between Kherwarra and Oodeypore, the Durbar horsemen are wretchedly mounted and quite inefficient as troops. They are chiefly Seindees and Rajpoots and Mahomedans of Meywar. The Seindees also are badly armed and quite undisciplined.

19. The pay of the cavalry under the orders of the Durbar Hakim is 15 and 16 Oodeypore Rupees per mensem, for which they have to horse, arm, and clothe themselves. The footmen receive 6 Oodeypore Rupees per mensem, and arm and clothe themselves.

20. I append a Return (marked D.), showing the distribution of the force and the establishment kept up at the several Thannahs.

21. I annex a Return of the Bhoomia Chiefs of the Kherwarra District (marked E.), showing the number of villages owned by each, his approximate gross annual income, the amount of tribute paid to the Durbar, and the strength of the military quota which he is bound to furnish.

The Meywar Mheel Corps.

and drunkenness is almost unknown in the corps. Indeed, after considerable experience of all classes of our native soldiery, I can justly affirm that I have never known better disposed or more orderly soldiers than the Bheels of Meywar. During the past year, each company of the corps has in turn passed under your immediate notice as your escort, and I feel confident that your opinion of the discipline and good feeling that exists agrees with my own.

24. I beg to annex Captain Battye's Report on the Kotra District. I have much pleasure in stating that during the 10 months he has officiated as 2nd Assistant Political Agent he has conducted the duties of his office with much zeal and efficiency, and has succeeded in winning the confidence of the Bhoomia Chiefs under his charge.

No. 27, dated 29th March 1869.

From—CAPTAIN W. BATTYE, Officiating 2nd Asstt. Poltl. Agent, Meywar.

To—LIEUT.-COL. A. M. MACKENZIE, Political Supdt., Hilly Tracts, Meywar.

I HAVE the honor to make the following report regarding the district of Kotra :—

2. The station of Kotra is a detached post of the Meywar Bheel Corps, and lies about 56 miles north-west of Kherwarra, the head-quarters of the regiment.

3. The officer residing at Kotra holds the appointment of 2nd in Command, Meywar Bheel Corps, and 2nd Assistant Political Agent, Meywar. The district is under his immediate supervision, and forms part of the charge of the Political Superintendent, Hilly Tracts. It is divided into three estates, *viz.*—

Joorah, Oghna, and Panurwa.

JOORAH.

Rawut Zorawur Singh is the Bhoomia Chief of the Joorah estate, which comprises 118 villages, 62 of which are held by the undermentioned seven Thakoors, *viz.*—

1. Thakoor Bhowanee Singh of Sumedja, who possesses 12 villages and pays Rupees 200 annually to his Chief.

2. Thakoor Dowlut Singh of Momdalie; holds two villages, and pays Rupees 28.

3. Thakoor Anar Singh of Madra; possesses four villages and pays annually Rupees 40.

4. Thakoor Bharut Singh of Nursingpora; holds one village and pays Rupees 25.

5. Thakoor Bhyroo Singh of Bas; holds one village and pays Rupees 25.

6. Thakoor Dhoola Singh of large Parowlie; holds 40 villages and pays Rupees 80 annually.

7. Thakoor Chundun Singh of small Parowlie; holds two villages and pays Rupees 28.

OGHNA.

Rawut Kesree Singh is the Bhoomia Chief of the Oghna estate, which comprises 32 villages, which are ruled by himself.

PANURWA.

Raunah Bhowany Singh, son of the Chief of Oghna, is the Ruler of the Panurwa District, which comprises 92 villages, 47 of which are held by the 3 following Thakoors, *viz.*—

1. Thakoor Buden Singh of Adewas, who holds 10 villages and pays Rupees 100 yearly to the Chief.

2. Thakoor Urjunt Singh of Ora; holds 12 villages and pays Rupees 120.

3. Thakoor Dooljee of Oomria; holds 25 villages, but he only receives half the revenue of his villages, which are managed by the Panurwa Chief himself.

Rain-fall.

4. No register exists, but arrangements will be made to commence a registration.

Harvests.

5. The spring harvests for the year 1868, called by the Bheels "Oonaloo," yielded a fair crop; the grain sown was slightly damaged by the frost, but not enough to cause great inconvenience. The rain harvests, called "Chamasoo," yielded well from the first sowing, but the second crop dried up, owing to the scarcity of water.

In the spring harvest of this year very little grain was sown, owing to the dryness of the earth. The first crop of wheat and barley sown have yielded well, but the second crop failed, owing to its having been eaten up by insects.

Climate.

6. The general health of the Kotra District is good between the months of February and June, but from July to January it is decidedly unhealthy, owing to the jungle all round increasing in the rains and drying up with difficulty: on this account the 2nd Assistant is allowed to proceed to Kherwarra during the monsoon season.

Post Office.

7. The Post Office at Kotra is a branch of the Kherwarra line. The duties of the Office are conducted in a very satisfactory manner by a Native Doctor Sewtabul, in medical charge at Kotra, who receives from Government Rupees 12 per mensem for his duties.

Tribute.

8. The Chiefs of the Kotra District pay tribute to the Meywar Durbar as follows, but are not bound to furnish any military quota:—

Joorah	...	...	Rs. 600
Oghna	...	...	" 400

Panurwa.—Nothing definite seems to have been laid down regarding the amount of tribute to be paid by this Chief; consequently the matter has been the subject of a correspondence for some time. I trust, however, shortly to be able to have the point satisfactorily decided.

Customs dues.

9. The customs dues collected by the Kotra Chiefs are as follows:—

For every bullockload of grain	... 2 annas.
„ „ cloth, sugar, haldi, &c.	4 „
Camelload of opium (5 maunds)	... Rs. 5-4

In the Joorah District, they are collected at Googrood, Melhidpore, and Bikurnee.

In Oghna, at Oghna itself.

In Panurwa, at Manpore and Nowagaum.

Revenue.

10. In Oghna and Pauurwa one quarter of the profits of the soil and one rupee or more are taken from each house according to the wealth of the owner and the pleasure of the Chief.

In Joorah there is a distinction made between the Grasseecas and Bheels. With the former, if the profits of the land are good, then from each plough one maund and a half “pucka” of grain and one rupee are taken, but if not, they are left to the discretion of the Chief. Those villages that do not pay their revenue in grain pay at the outside Rupees 2 a house, according to their means. The Bheels pay Rupees 1-4 at the outside and 12 seers of grain a house, according to the wealth of the occupants.

Income.

11. I regret being unable to give the income of each Chief, as no regular accounts are kept; I have, however, strongly advised them on this point, and hope next year to furnish the required Statement.

A.

TABLE showing the amount of rain which fell at Kherwarra during the year 1868.

MONTHS.			Inches.	Cents.	REMARKS.
January	...	...	
February	...	...	
March	...	...	
April	...	...	
May	...	...	
June	...	...	3	77	
July	...	...	6	62	
August	...	...	18	74	
September	...	...	...	...	No rain ; very unusual. "Mukkee" crop failed in consequence.
October	...	...	
November	...	...	
December	...	...	
Total			39*	13	

During the year rain fell on forty days, and 39·13 inches were collected. This amount is in excess of the past three years, 19, 24, and 23 inches having been registered in 1865, 1866, and 1867, respectively.

* Sic in orig.

B.

RETURN showing the amount of Bolace and tolls levied from travellers, and on carriage passing through Meywar territory from Molklee to Oodeypore, a distance of 56 miles.

Where and by whom levied.		Per cart of travellers.	Per pack-bullock.	Per horse.	Per camel.	Per man.	Duty levied on each four bullock-cart of grain.	REMARKS.
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
By the Meywar Durbar	...	0 6 0	0 1 6	0 0 0	0 3 0	0 0 9	1 2 0	
By the Rao of Jewas	...	0 4 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 2 0	0 0 0	0 4 0	
Bolace levied at Moodwarra and Thobawarra...	...	0 2 0	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 2 0	
Bolace levied at Kagdur	...	0 4 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 4 0	
Ditto Beeluk	...	0 4 0	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 4 0	
Ditto Peeplee	...	0 3 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 2 0	0 0 6	0 3 0	
Ditto Pursad	...	0 4 0	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 4 0	
Ditto Barah	...	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 6	0 0 0	0 2 0	
Ditto Pudoona	...	0 4 0	0 1 6	0 1 6	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 4 0	
Ditto Terdeo	...	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 6	0 0 0	0 2 0	
Ditto Jawur	...	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 6	0 0 9	0 2 0	
Ditto Undarce	...	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 6	0 0 0	0 2 0	
Ditto Kya	...	0 2 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 6	0 0 0	0 2 0	
Ditto Chubbeena Khara	...	0 3 0	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 2 0	0 0 6	0 3 0	
Total	...	2 12 0	0 13 4	0 11 7	1 8 10	0 9 4	3 8 0	

If travellers halt at any of the above villages during the night, they have to pay two pies per man for "Chokeedaree" and one anna per cart.

D.

LIST showing the Durbar Thannahs in the Hilly Tracts under the orders of the "Muggra Hakim," or Governor of the Hilly Tracts.

NAME OF THANNAH.	Establishment.	Number of Horse.	Number of Foot.
With the Hakim	{ 1 Kamdar ... 1 Potdar ... 1 Moonshee ... }	50	205
Sirara and in district	{ 4 Kamdars ... 2 Moonsuddees ... 1 Potdar ... }	25	75
Khetwarra and Vulleeha	{ 2 Kamdars ... 1 Potdar ... }	20	35
Kullianpore	{ 1 Kamdar ... 1 Potdar ... }	5	35
Ruttora	1 Kamdar ...	5	14
Laccaria	{ 1 Kamdar ... 1 Moonsuddee ... 1 Potdar ... }	15	50
Kalleebheet	{ 1 Kamdar ... 1 Potdar ... }	...	7
Parola	{ 1 Kamdar ... 1 Potdar ... }	5	14
Some Sigree	1 Kamdar ...	...	7
Ragooghur	1 Kamdar ...	...	39
Deypore ... ..	.....	5	...
Keora Ka Nal	1 Kamdar ...	...	...
Chunoda	1 Kamdar ...	...	14
Ruklabnath	1 Kamdar ...	...	7
Jawar	1 Kamdar ...	10	14
Myl-hree	1 Kamdar ...	...	14
Buanda	1 Kamdar ...	...	14
Total ...		140	511

APPENDIX 4.

RETURN showing Relief operations in Oodeypore City.

INDIAN CORN.			PARCHED GRAM.					Total value.
Id.	Quantity of grain.	Value.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Quantity of grain.	Value.	
	M. s. c.	Rs. a. p.				M. s. c.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
74	1 10 0	9 1 6	...	.....		.....	...	9 1 6
24	3 30 0	27 3 9	126	men, women, and children. do. do. do.		0 30 0	6 0 0	33 3 9
50	4 0 0	29 1 6	300			1 5 0	9 0 0	38 1 6
100	4 0 0	29 1 6	400			2 0 0	16 0 0	45 1 6
300	4 8 0	30 7 3	375	...	...	1 10 0	10 0 0	40 7 3
500	6 0 0	43 10 3	600	...	...	1 20 0	12 0 0	55 10 3
700	9 0 0	65 7 3	665	...	...	1 30 0	14 0 0	79 7 3
900	10 0 0	72 11 6	419	...	...	1 5 0	9 0 0	81 11 6
	10 0 0	72 11 6	575	...	...	1 10 0	10 0 0	82 11 6
	12 0 0	87 4 3	330	...	...	0 35 0	7 0 0	94 4 3
100	13 0 0	94 8 9	569	...	...	1 12 8	10 8 0	105 0 9
138	14 0 0	101 12 6	547	...	...	1 12 8	10 8 0	112 4 6
151	11 0 0	101 12 6	650	...	...	1 7 0	9 6 6	111 3 0
160	17 0 0	123 10 3	450	...	...	1 10 0	10 0 0	133 10 3
180	15 0 0	109 1 6	435	...	...	1 3 0	8 9 9	117 11 3
200	16 20 0	120 0 0	318	...	...	0 30 0	6 0 0	126 0 0
201	17 20 0	127 4 0	200	men and women. do.	140	1 15 0	11 0 0	138 4 0
250	15 0 0	109 0 0	117		161	1 8 0	9 9 6	118 9 6
280	14 0 0	116 6 6	90	120	200	1 20 0	12 0 0	128 6 6
290	17 30 0	129 1 6	81	115	140	1 9 0	9 12 9	138 14 3
311	17 10 0	125 7 3	60	169	200	1 20 0	12 0 0	137 7 3
325	17 0 0	123 10 3	82	96	208	1 15 0	11 0 0	134 6 3
350	21 20 0	159 6 0	114	159	210	2 3 0	16 9 6	172 16 6
360	19 0 0	134 2 9	169	232	260	2 15 0	19 0 0	167 2 9
381	19 0 0	133 3 0	112	163	152	1 24 0	12 12 9	160 15 9
390	21 0 0	152 12 0	150	159	215	2 3 0	16 12 0	169 8 0

APPENDIX 5.

Translation of a Notification issued by the Pertabghur Durbar, dated 13th December 1868.

OWING to the failure of the rains, grain and grass have not been produced in Marwar and other territories; in consequence, thousands of Marwar emigrants with their cattle have come into Malwa. The saying what? Is it a Tinkal? (famine of grass, grain, and water) has come to pass. May the Almighty have mercy on his people, for the famine is from the commencement of the year, and will last until the next season's harvest; it is therefore necessary to make every arrangement for the supply of grain for this country. It is hereby ordered that all jaghiredars, Moostagirs, Putels, and Putwarrees are to attend to the following orders, so that the people of this country and the emigrants from others may not suffer from the present drought and attendant scarcity:—

1stly.—That all export and import duties on grain have been remitted till Savan Sood Poonnm Sumbat 1926.

2ndly.—That the people of other territories who are able to work are to be employed on works of utility, such as digging wells and tanks, &c., in order that they may earn a livelihood in this time of distress.

3rdly.—There are permanent "Sudaburt" or relief-houses at Pertabghur, one belonging to the State, and the others to mahajuns of Pertabghur; the managers of relief-houses are hereby enjoined to dispense charity to the Marwar and other emigrants who may ask for alms, so that each individual receives not less than one seer of flour.

4thly.—There is no prohibition to the export of grain, but it is again notified that no restrictions of any kind will be put on the grain trade; all grain dealers of this territory may freely buy and sell grain: they will also receive aid from the Durbar. And if any foreign trader wishes to import grain into Pertabghur and asks for guards, the same will be furnished to him, provided that previous notice is given to the Durbar: not that the roads are unprotected, but precautions are necessary during a time of scarcity and famine.

5thly.—The cattle which have come from Marwar and other places are to be allowed to graze duty-free at the foot of the hills and in the grass beers already cut down, and if any complaint is received that dues are levied on these people, the matter will be noticed and the offender punished.

6thly.—The officers of State, jaghiredars, and Moostagirs are hereby enjoined to pay every attention to the Notification received on the subject from the Agent of the Governor General, Rajpootana.

APPENDIX 6.

No. 69P., dated 31st March 1869.

From—LIEUT.-COL. A. M. MACKENZIE, 1st Assistant Political Agent, Meywar.

To—LIEUT.-COL. A. R. E. HUTCHINSON, Political Agent, Meywar.

I HAVE the honor to submit the following Report on the Doongurpore State for the past year:—

DOONGURPORE.

2. It affords me much pleasure to be able to state that His Highness Maharawal Oodey Singh has steadily persevered in the praiseworthy course he adopted five years ago, and the present condition of his territory affords very satisfactory proof of the success of his efforts to improve his Government, and also of the efficient and assiduous aid he has received from his able Minister, Shah Nihal Chund.

3. I annex a Return of the work done in the Civil and Criminal Courts at the capital for the Sumbut year 1924 (marked A.). All cases are adjudicated by Moonshee Nyaz Mahomed, whose decisions are invariably submitted to the Chief by the Minister for confirmation.

Division of the State.

4. The State is divided into six pergunnahs, *viz.*, Chasut, Turpode, Kuttarah, Chowrassee, Barah, and Barril. There are nine Thannahs (noted in the margin). The Thannahdars are required in all cases to report to the Minister, and have no independent powers. A force of 197 Sowars and Sipahis is distributed over the Thannahs.

1. Damborah.	5. Sablah.
2. Sagarra.	6. Antree.
3. Asper.	7. Dawul.
4. Pardlah.	8. Konbah.
9. Damree.	

Revenue.

11. The daily attendance during the fortnight the fair lasted was estimated at 15 to 20,000, and the arrangements made by the Chief for the preservation of order and the safety of property were excellent. He expresses himself very anxious to obtain the services in future years of a company of the Meywar Bheel Corps, and as the presence of our troops always imparts confidence to the dealers and assures the safety of their wares, I would recommend compliance with His Highness's wishes. When my other engagements admit of my attending the fair myself, this precaution is unnecessary.

Public Establishments.

12. There is no Post Office throughout the territory, nor any dispensaries under European directions, but the Durbar keeps up two Hakims at the capital, and medicines are provided for the poor at the expense of the State. One Hindee School is supported by the Raj at the capital, and between 60 and 70 scholars attend daily.

The Thakoors.

13. I annex a classified list of the Thakoors (marked D.) showing the amount of tribute paid by each to the Durbar, but I am unable in this Report to give the number of villages owned by, or the annual income of, each. I hope, however, ere long to acquire reliable information on these points.

14. I am glad to say the Chief's relations with his feudatories are on a more satisfactory footing than they were in the early part of last year. As some of his measures, though distasteful to them, seemed to me judicious and right as tending to take into his own hands the administration of his State, for the proper management of which he alone is responsible to Her Majesty's Government, I have given him all the support in my power. All the Thakoors of importance responded to his summons to attend the fair with their quotas, and afforded him every assistance in preserving order.

Conclusion.

15. The proximity of Kherwarra to Doongurpore has brought me into frequent and intimate association with the Maharawal, and I have formed a high opinion of his character. He is of a genial, open nature, of quick perception, and generous impulse. Since his visit to Bombay in 1864, on which occasion I accompanied His Highness, the marked kindness of the reception accorded him by His Excellency Sir Bartle Frere seemed to have the effect of raising him in his own estimation, and to have impelled him to the judicious course he has since observed in the administration of his State, in order to deserve and retain the consideration which was shown His Highness by the Governor, and which proved so gratifying to him.

16. Trusting that I have succeeded in showing that the Maharawal and his Minister are deserving of the commendation they evince every desire to attain, I have, &c.

A.

RETURN of cases instituted during the Sumbul year 1924, i. e., from 1st July 1867 to 30th June 1868, showing the number settled and remaining.

MONTHS.			No. of criminal cases.	No. of civil cases.	Settled.	Remaining.	Total.
July 1867	...	...	17	9	17	9	26
August	...	...	20	9	19	10	29
September	...	...	9	1	6	4	10
October	...	...	10	5	4	11	15
November	...	...	7	6	6	7	13
December	...	...	7	6	9	4	13
January 1868	...	...	8	7	11	4	15
February	...	...	3	...	2	1	3
March...	...	...	9	4	11	2	13
April ...	...	...	14	5	8	11	19
May ...	...	...	7	2	3	6	9
June ...	...	...	9	8	8	9	17
Total			120	62	104	78	182

B.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Disbursements of the Deonpur State for the Sumbul year 1924, i. e., A. D. 1st July 1867 to 30th June 1868.

	Amount.	Total.
RECEIPTS.	<i>Rs. a. p.</i>	<i>Rs. a. p.</i>
Land revenue for 1924 ...	77,873 4 0	
Revenue of land allotted to Durbar servants ...	3,600 12 0	
Value of revenue paid in kind ...	571 0 0	
Abkaree ...	2,305 2 0	
Miscellaneous ...	2,717 13 0	
Customs ...	28,000 0 0	
"Sookree" tax levied by Durbar officials employed in collecting rents	13,500 0 0	1,28,367 15 0
DISBURSEMENTS.		
"Kothiar Khureh," or personal expenses of Maharawal ...	24,679 14 9	
Household expenses ...	2,397 1 9	
Miscellaneous ...	13,819 13 0	
State expenditure, viz.—		
Contingent expenses ...	29,234 15 3	
Tribute to British Government ...	35,000 0 0	
Exchange on ditto ...	1,356 4 0	
Pay of troops ...	60,161 0 11	1,66,619 1 8

D.

LIST of Thakoor Jaghiredars of Doongurpore, showing the amount of annual tribute paid by each to the State.

Number.	NAME OF JAGHIREDA.	Place of residence.	Amount of tribute and "Thor."	REMARKS.
1	Chowan Kesree Singh	Bunkorah	Rs. a. p. 3,602 0 0	1st Class Sirdar (Tazimdar). Formerly paid Rupees 5,501.
	Ditto Bukht Singh	Bechawarra	425 0 0	1st ditto. Formerly paid Rupees 801.
	Ditto Deep Singh	Pcet	1,517 8 0	1st ditto. Formerly paid Rupees 2,201.
	Mairtia Futeh Singh	Kooa	903 2 0	1st ditto.
	Chowan Doongur Singh	Modore	1,275 0 0	1st ditto.
	Ditto Rattan Singh	Cheetree (is also Thakoor of Gurlice, in Banswarra).	601 0 0	1st ditto.
7	Ditto Gumbheer Singh	Thakurda (is also Thakoor of Kalra, in Banswarra).	1,408 0 0	1st ditto. Formerly paid Rupees 2,201.
8	Ditto Bhowanee Singh	Yumasa	285 2 0	1st ditto.
9	Choondawut Mobut Singh	Solege	310 0 0	1st ditto.
0	Solunkl Koesal Singh	Mada	531 4 0	1st ditto.
1	Ada Abhey Singh	Sablee	.....	Brother of the Rawul. Pays no tribute, but presents nuzzerana on succession.
2	Ada Oomed Singh	Nandlee	.....	Ditto ditto.
3	Choondawut Partab Singh	Ramghur	.....	1st Class Sirdar (Tazimdar). Pays no tribute, but presents nuzzerana on succession.
4	Chowan Kesore Singh	Lodawul	.....	1st ditto.
5	Ditto Hunmut Singh	Vugaroo	318 12 0	2nd ditto.
6	Ditto Soornjmul	Padurree (big)	318 12 0	2nd ditto.
7	Ditto Bharut Singh	Simurwara	1,275 0 0	2nd ditto.
8	Suktawut Chuttur Singh	Sorghur	110 0 0	2nd ditto.
9	Bboomla Dicerat Singh	Bor	101 0 0	2nd ditto.
0	Ditto Uowlut Singh	Choondawarra	326 4 0	2nd ditto.
1	Ada Durjun Singh	Sesode	34 10 0	2nd ditto.
2	Ada Himmut Singh	Ganree	173 4 0	2nd ditto.
3	Chowan Udey Singh	Gurmala	50 0 0	2nd ditto.
4	Suktawut Tukht Singh	Andora	111 0 0	2nd ditto.
5	Choondawut Urjun Singh	Para Tooruka	278 10 0	2nd ditto.
6	Chowan Man Singh	Padurree (small)	61 6 0	2nd ditto.
7	Ranawut Jalum Singh	Rusana	170 4 0	2nd ditto.
8	Chowan Nakar Singh	Rama	91 12 0	2nd ditto.
9	Choondawut Roop Singh	Sukhancee	155 4 0	2nd ditto.
0	Ditto Kesree Singh	Gurrah	54 12 0	2nd ditto.
1	Kutchwara Dowlut Singh	Khalra	210 4 0	2nd ditto.
2	Chowan Bhowan Singh	Gedapla	144 12 0	2nd ditto.
3	Vajunda Nowul Singh	Pandlah	93 12 0	2nd ditto.

LIST of Thakoor Jaghiredars of Doongurpore, &c.—(Continued.)

Number.	NAME OF JAGHIRENDAR.	Place of residence.	Amount of tribute and "Thor."	REMARKS.
			Rs. a. p.	
34	Ada Urjoon Singh ...	Phawutta ...	36 2 0	2nd Class Sirdar.
35	Chowan Kuuuk Slugh ...	Vedsa ...	310 2 0	2nd ditto.
36	Runnawut Partab Singh ...	Nittoora ...	417 0 0	2nd ditto.
37	Chowan Bhorojee ...	Vunwasa ...	105 4 0	2nd ditto.
38	Ditto Hindoo Singh ...	Reelha ...	200 8 0	2nd ditto.
39	Ditto Jait Singh ...	Kunnoreca ...	102 12 0	2nd ditto.
40	Ditto Gumbheer Singh ...	Gamree ...	337 8 0	2nd ditto.
41	Ditto Chumjee ...	Tumboreca ...	157 0 0	2nd ditto.
42	Ditto Raghodass ...	Chiklee ...	412 0 0	2nd ditto.
43	Ditto Dheerjee ...	Jhoosara ...	233 6 0	2nd ditto.
44	Ditto Gooman Singh ...	Sakodra ...	231 12 0	2nd ditto.
45	Vajunia Goolabjee ...	Khoomanpore ...	104 9 0	2nd ditto.
46	Ditto Nawul Singh ...	Gurrah ...	70 12 0	2nd ditto.
47	Chowan Perthee Singh ...	Gamra ...	74 6 0	2nd ditto.
48	Ditto Bhowan Singh ...	Walafe ...	.....	2nd ditto. Pays no tribute.
49	Chowan Ruttun Singh ...	Noorecawara ...	78 12 0	2nd ditto.
50	Ditto Pahadjee ...	Wajurda ...	23 8 0	3rd ditto.
51	Byala Nahar Singh ...	Bagdree ..	13 4 0	3rd ditto.
52	Chowan Perthee Singh ...	Peeplada ...	18 12 0	3rd ditto.
53	Ada Nahar Singh ...	Padurree ...	24 4 0	3rd ditto.
54	Chumarpa Roop Singh ...	Patapore ...	17 6 0	3rd ditto.
55	Bhoomia Jaloojee ...	Jhunjooa ...	29 7 0	3rd ditto.
56	Chowan Partab Singh ...	Chala ...	21 13 0	3rd ditto.
57	Bhoomia Koobare Singh ...	Dhamode ...	162 0 0	3rd ditto.
58	Byola Goolabjee ...	Rainpore ...	13 0 0	3rd ditto.
59	Chowan Sorunjee ...	Rainwarra ...	38 4 0	3rd ditto.
60	Ditto Humeer Singh ...	Suncheea ...	47 2 0	3rd ditto.
61	Ad Jowan Singh ...	Chutara ...	12 0 0	3rd ditto.
62	Chumarpa Goolabjee ...	Soondurpore ...	77 5 0	3rd ditto.
63	Chowan Goolabjee ...	Khairwarra ...	64 1 0	3rd ditto.
64	Ditto Sumruth ...	Khair Doongra ...	15 0 0	3rd ditto.
65	Ditto Jorawur Singh ...	Gudah ...	14 4 0	3rd ditto.
66	Sindole Bhowanee Singh ...	Goomanpore ...	11 0 0	3rd ditto.
67	Chowan Khoosal Singh ...	Maitalee ...	59 4 0	3rd ditto.
68	Ada Mukun Singh ...	Mateegamra ...	62 2 0	3rd ditto.
69	Byola Punjee ...	Modwa ...	59 5 0	3rd ditto.
70	Chumarpa Dowlut Singh ...	Damree ...	59 8 0	3rd ditto.
71	Chowan Sew Singh ...	Deora ...	13 2 0	3rd ditto.
72	Choondawut Goolabjee ...	Kurara ...	16 6 0	3rd ditto.
73	Suktawut Dowlut Singh ...	Ghasowara ...	12 0 0	3rd ditto.

LIST of Thakoor Jaghiredars of Doongurpore, &c.—(Concluded.)

Number.	NAME OF JAGHIREGAR.	Place of residence.	Amount of tribute and "Thor."	REMARKS.
			Rs. a. p.	
74	Roawa Oomjee ...	Vasownder ...	125 12 0	3rd Class Sirdar.
75	Chowan Kooharo Singh ...	Teonkwara ...	41 2 0	3rd ditto.
76	Choondawut Koer Singh ...	Kumra Amba ...	25 14 0	3rd ditto.
77	Chowan Dooley Singh ...	Kilohardah ...	26 12 0	3rd ditto.
78	Ditto Kan Singh ...	Klororea ...	15 4 0	3rd ditto.
79	Choondawut Pertali Singh ...	Gudali ...	23 12 0	3rd ditto.
80	Chowan Rutton Singh ...	Ditto ...	27 0 0	3rd ditto.
81	Ditto Dulal Singh ...	Ditto ...	52 12 0	3rd ditto.
82	Ditto Kodurjee ...	Ditto ...	41 6 0	3rd ditto.
83	Ditto Durjaee ...	Ditto ...	76 0 0	3rd ditto.
84	Choondawut Jowan Singh ...	Modepore ...	50 12 0	3rd ditto.
85	Chowan Samuljee ...	Jurpore ...	101 0 0	3rd ditto.
86	Ditto Bhukhoot Singh ...	Bhowara ...	5 5 0	3rd ditto.
87	Mairtia Lal Singh ...	Oblee ...	73 4 0	3rd ditto.
88	Vajania Jowan Singh ...	Bar ...	15 4 0	3rd ditto.
89	Dussoodeo Lachmon Singh ...	Partlee ...	57 0 0	3rd ditto.
90	Chowan Dheerjee ...	Pardiah ...	85 8 0	3rd ditto.
91	Vajunia Rutton Singh ...	Jhoora ...	19 0 0	3rd ditto.
92	Mairtia Sirdar Singh ...	Ramsore ...	23 0 0	3rd ditto.
93	Ditto Mokum Singh ...	Ratreca ...	23 0 0	3rd ditto.
94	Choondawut Bhowan Singh ...	Nainsawa ...	27 8 0	3rd ditto.
95	Chowan Rutton Singh ...	Baramleo ...	56 14 0	3rd ditto.
96	Solunki Nowul Singh ...	Bhenda ...	41 0 0	3rd ditto.
97	Chowan Kodur Singh ...	Dholdra ...	26 0 0	3rd ditto.
98	Ditto Laljee ...	Ghooado ...	157 13 0	3rd ditto.
99	Damour Wagha ...	Lecklee ...	152 6 0	3rd ditto.
100	Chowan Ajeet Singh ...	Biloreca ...	61 2 0	3rd ditto.
101	Ditto Gooman Singh ...	Tekla ...	52 12 0	3rd ditto.
102	Ditto Bharejee ...	Khadun ...	15 0 0	3rd ditto.
103	Ditto Ajeet Singh ...	Limbatha ...	70 8 0	3rd ditto.
104	Ditto Roognath Singh ...	Maiala ...	89 0 0	3rd ditto.
105	Ada Oodey Singh ...	Muttooato ...	22 0 0	3rd ditto.
106	Chowan Bhowanee Singh ...	Dhoodawara ...	54 4 0	3rd ditto.
107	Ditto Sorjee ...	Gudali ...	25 0 0	3rd ditto.
108	Choondawut Dowlut Singh ...	Pantree ...	25 0 0	3rd ditto.
109	Chumarpa Urjun Singh ...	Antursuma ...	75 0 0	3rd ditto.

(Sd.) A. M. MACKENZIE, Lieut.-Col.,
 Polt. Supt., Hilly Tracts, Meywar.

JEYPORE AGENCY REPORT.

No. 15-11A.G., dated 30th May 1869.

From—MAJOR W. H. BEYNON, Political Agent, Jeypore.

To—LIEUT.-COL. R. H. KEATINGE, C.S.I., V.C., Agent, G. G., Rajpootana.

I HAVE the honor to submit my Report on the administration of the Jeypore State for the year 1868-69.

2. In last year's Report the inauguration of a "Council," as a reform of the previously existing mode of Government, was specially noticed. The introduction of the change, as I then remarked, was not unattended with difficulties. With the Thakoores and old influential officials of the State, a class proverbially conservative, it was not expected to be popular, and there was also a very considerable party to whose interests the measure was extremely inimical, and from whom it was, of course, safe to calculate on receiving the strongest opposition.

3. Now that we have had a fair opportunity of judging of the success and merits of the new administration, it will be gratifying to learn that, in the face of so much opposition, and to the surprise of a great many who believed that it could not last, the "Council" has, under the guidance and support of the Maharaja, firmly held its ground, and, as a success, has come fully up to the expectations of the most sanguine of its promoters.

4. As a consultive body, the "Council" has been all that could be desired in assisting His Highness in devising and working out the various reforms and improvements which so distinguish the administration for the year under review, and which I shall notice more particularly under their appropriate heads as my Report progresses; while, as an "Executive," it would appear to have been no less useful. The Durbar assures me that not only has the despatch of public business been greatly accelerated, but that in every branch of the administration there is a show of progress and an increasing efficiency which never before obtained, or, it is believed, could possibly have been secured, under the former Government. Of this, it affords me much pleasure to state, my own official intercourse with the Durbar is not wanting in proofs.

5. The "Council," however, is far from what I yet hope to see it. Amongst other disadvantages, I find amongst its members a greater absence than I should desire to see of that business element which is so essentially necessary to the full development of the usefulness of such an assembly; while, I dare say, there are other shortcomings which, with an infant institution as the "Council" is, we must only leave to time and experience to remedy. By the end of another year I hope to find much of this removed, and a nearer approach made to what it must sooner or later become, a genuine and lasting benefit to the State.

6. Of the Government, as a whole, I have to report favourably; but I should scarcely be doing the Durbar justice were I to omit making special mention of the enlightened and almost unprecedented progress of her administration, more particularly during the past three or four years.

This has been in the highest degree creditable.

7. That there are defects in the Government, I do not for a moment doubt.

It must take, necessarily, a longer time and a greater amount of application than the Maharaja has yet had an opportunity of bestowing on the question to rid himself effectually of the deep-seated and obstructive practices which are, so to speak, inherent in the very constitution of Native States. This good beginning, however, affords us encouragement to hope and an assurance that the matter is at least in good and competent hands.

8. With regard to the Maharaja's policy generally, I have the fullest confidence: of its efficiency and vigour we require no better proofs than the steadily increasing prosperity of the country, the contentment of the people, and the high place which Jeypore, as an enlightened State, is now acknowledged to hold amongst the Native Chiefships of the Empire.

9. The distress felt in this State from the excessive drought and failure of the crops has already been fully reported in my letter to your address No. 115 G., dated the 29th September 1868, and the gloomy anticipations which I then recorded in respect to the "rubbee," or rain sowings, have, I am sorry to say, been more than realized.

10. Fortunately for Jeypore, wells, though far from ample, are more abundant than in some of the neighbouring States, and these have secured a fair crop on the irrigated lands. But for these means and the timely measures of relief which were adopted by the Durbar, there is no saying to what dire distress and suffering the people must have been inevitably reduced.

11. With the exception of a few partial showers of hardly measurable quantity in the mouths of June and July, there has been no rain-fall worth the mentioning.

A better idea, however, of this will be formed from a glance at the following Table showing the total fall from June to September inclusive as compared with a corresponding period for the previous year:—

	1867.	1868.
Rain-fall from June to September inclusive	20 inches.	5½ inches.

12. This remarkable drought, as you are aware, has not been confined to this State alone, but has visited the whole of Rajpootana and the British district of Ajmere.

13. The yield of the crops in the most favoured localities of the State is believed to be a trifle better than one quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$) of average years, while on non-irrigated lands, and in the greater part of the large province of Shekawatee, where not only are wells scarce, but where the peculiar nature of the soil is unfavourable, the out-turn has been even considerably less than a fourth.

14. The most serious failure, however, has been in the grass crops. The dearth in this commodity is so great, that the Durbar has been compelled to interdict its exportation, in order to be able, if possible, to provide for its own consumption, which, it is feared, will much exceed the supply.

15. From the very first, in August last, when the symptoms of distress became evident, the Maharaja, it affords me pleasure to report, has been most forward and successful in his exertions to mitigate the evil as far as it was in his power to do so.

One of the initiatory steps in this direction was his manifesto of the 20th September, proclaiming a free grain trade and the abolition of all transit dues and charges thereon throughout his territory, as reported in my letter of the 29th September 1868, No. 1556. That letter enters so fully into particulars, that I cannot do better than give it a place in this Report; I therefore append a copy of it, marked A.

16. It was not to be expected, under even the best of Governments, that a measure involving such a complete change, and affecting so many interests, could be applied at once and carried out in a large State like Jeypore without some opposition and difficulty.

17. At the outset there was certainly some opposition encountered, but this was inconsiderable, and resulted more from the newness of the measure, and misapprehension on the part of the local authorities, in the more distant parts of the State, as to the real scope and intention of the proclamation.

Instances of wilful infraction were comparatively few, and had only to be brought to the notice of the Maharaja to be instantly enquired into and remedied.

18. While the moral influence of the proclamation in moving the neighbouring Chiefs to imitate the Maharaja's liberality has been all that could be wished, its practical advantages not only to his own subjects, but in other famine-afflicted localities, cannot be over-estimated. To the British district of Ajmere and the Nusseerabad Cantonment, which are more or less dependent on Jeypore for their imports, the free trade measure has proved specially advantageous, and may be said to have contributed no small share of the means which have fortunately enabled these places to tide over their distress so well as they have.

19. The Jeypore price of grain, though somewhat higher for a short period when matters were at their worst, has never been more than 8 seers for the rupee; and at the time I now write the price of wheat has declined to 9 and 9½ seers, and barley to 13 seers, with a tendency to further improvement.

20. Of all classes, the non-agricultural is, perhaps, the worst off in this State.

There is no lack, however, of employment for all who may stand in need of it on the famine works which have been specially instituted by the Darbar for that purpose. These works are of the most ample description, but as they will be more particularly noticed under the head of "Public Works" in this Report, I may pass them over here.

21. It is no less gratifying to note the very creditable consideration that has been paid to the helpless poor and those who, from age or infirmity, are debarred from availing themselves of the relief works.

Dhurraumsalahs and ulms-houses have been opened specially for this class, whence relief is dispensed with a liberal hand to all needy and deserving applicants.

Private charity, I have reason to believe, is also largely practised in all the more important towns by the well-to-do classes, and in some instances that have come to my knowledge, with the most praiseworthy munificence.

22. The Maharaja's relief measures have received the warm acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government and the reward of an increase to his salute from 17 to 19 guns.

STATISTICS.

23. The revenue returns, which have just reached me from the Durbar, give the net receipts of the State for the past year at Rupees 39,90,525, against an expenditure of Rupees 38,77,197. This may be a correct Statement when we take into consideration the agricultural distress and outlay on famine relief works during the year; but the income, I have every reason to believe, during ordinary years, approaches nearer 50 lakhs, while the expenditure may be put down at 40 lakhs.

24. The difficulty of obtaining trustworthy Returns is true, generally, of Native States. Besides the motives which, ordinarily, prompt this concealment, our Treaty with Jeypore in A. D. 1818, I find, stands much in the way as far as this Durbar is concerned. By the 6th Clause of that negotiation she stipulates to pay, in addition to the regular tribute, five-sixteenths of all such revenue as shall exceed 40 lakhs a year. I am fully aware that the modification that was subsequently made in the tribute terms impliedly cancelled that obligation; it is difficult, however, to make the Durbar understand this, nor is it very likely that it will ever care to do so until the objectionable clause is actually expunged from the Treaty altogether.

25. The general health of the State has been good. An epidemic of small-pox appeared in the middle of December, and continued its ravages till the end of February. But for that scourge, the year under report would have been one of the healthiest on record.

I have not been able to obtain the mortuary Returns of the State, but the total number of deaths in the city from all causes during the year is computed at 5,447, which is a decrease of 578 in the number for the preceding year.

The number of deaths from small-pox alone has not been ascertainable.

SHEKAWATTEE.

26. The past year forms rather an important epoch in the history of Shekawattee. There has been more real, earnest action on the part of the Durbar, and greater positive good accomplished than at any former period in all my experience.

27. The benefit which, in my last year's Report, I had calculated would be secured to this province by the location of a British officer on the Bikanere border, has been realized.

28. From the difficulty hitherto experienced in dealing with dacoity and violent crime in consequence of the great distance of the Aboo Thuggee Agency, it was proposed to take advantage of Captain Powlett's more central position on the frontier to place the whole of the

30. Amongst the many causes which have led to the unfortunate condition of Shekawattee, none has contributed more than the apathy and opposition of the Thakoors and petty Chiefs in the support of a progressive policy, while not a few of them are, from motives of gain, indifferent to, if not professedly promoters of, the characteristic disorder and misrule of this province. The difficulty hitherto experienced in reaching this latter class has particularly impeded the introduction of good government.

31. The measure which was noticed in my last Annual Report for binding these reculant Thakoors to a policy and holding them personally responsible for the good conduct of their respective communities, followed up as it was by the Maharaja's prompt and firm action in the Chowkree, Mulseesur, and Nowulghur dacoity cases, above referred to, have done much to overcome these difficulties.

The administration has considerably advanced, as you are aware, during the past 12 months, while in dacoity and violent excesses there is a marked improvement.

32. During the year under report a difficulty has sprung up with regard to the position we propose to assume in respect to the affairs of Shekawattee. The Maharaja has strongly protested against any show of open interposition on our part, at least till the measures which are now being applied by his own Durbar have developed themselves and till he has sufficient time to test their value.

This will go far in promoting a healthy administration in Shekawatee.

35. It is also a very promising feature to observe that, since the recent visits of the Seekur and Bussao Chiefs to Jeypore, and the friendly relations that have sprung out of these visits, as will be noticed in my remarks under the heads of these Chiefships, nearly all the petty Chiefs have spontaneously signified their intentions to follow the example and to unite their efforts in the common cause of civilization and reform.

36. The subject of the Maharaja's remonstrance against our proposed Shekawatee policy is still under your consideration.

SEEKUR.

37. The difference that existed between this dependency and the Durbar since the accession of the present Rao Raja Mahado Singh, on the death of Byroo Singh, in the month of April 1866, has been at last satisfactorily settled, the young Ruler having been formally installed by the Maharaja in the month of April last.

38. As explained in my Report for 1866-67, the difference above alluded to had no reference to the question of the lad's adoption, which was never disputed by the Maharaja, though, perhaps, doubted by interested individuals, but merely to the payment of succession nuzzurana, which His Highness as Suzerain considered he had a right to exact; the Seekur authorities, on the other hand, claiming immunity on the grounds that the tax was opposed to the relations of the Chiefship and the established custom of the country generally. The issue, however, of a proclamation by the Durbar making the payment of "nuzzurana" an imperative obligation on the occasion of all successions within its jurisdiction, together with the pressure that was subsequently brought to bear on the head of the Regency (Mokund Singh), who had in the meantime been summoned to Jeypore, resulted in the payment of the demands and the recognition of the young Chief, as I have above stated. The amount of succession duty payable by Seekur in this instance was fixed at Rupees 1,75,000, to be paid by three equal annual instalments.

39. Rao Raja Mahado Singh being yet a boy, the administration is in the hands of Mokund Singh, a man of tried antecedents, of considerable ability and experience, and of reputed good character. I believe the Government to be most admirably conducted: the people appear to be happy and prosperous, the finances of the State cautiously administered, while the prevailing order and almost general absence of the disorder and misrule so peculiar to Shekawatee generally reflect the greatest credit on the members of the Government.

40. The services of a competent tutor from Benares have been obtained for the young Chief, who appears to be naturally quick, and to have already made some progress in his studies, especially in Hindee, during the past year. It may not be unworthy of mention that, on dismissing Mahado Singh after his installation at Jeypore, there was nothing in which the Maharaja appeared to be more earnest and anxious to impress on the lad's mind than the great advantages of education and the importance of applying himself sedulously to his studies while he had yet youth and vigour on his side—an advice which, it is to be hoped, will not be lost upon him.

41. Seekur, following the example of Jeypore, has abolished all transit and other dues on grain passing through the territory, and stands well forward with regard to famine relief measures generally.

KHETREE.

42. I regret that my Report on the affairs of Khetree must be less favourable than I expected it would have been. The ill-health of the Chief has, unfortunately, necessitated his absence from the territory during the whole of the year, and he is now at Mussoorie for change of air on the urgent recommendation of his medical advisers. This circumstance, with a variety of natural causes, have, I am sorry to say, occasioned a marked retrogressive step in the administration of the year under report.

43. Not only have complaints of misrule reached me from more than one quarter, but there is an unmistakeable falling off in the vigilance and efficiency which have heretofore characterized the Government of Khetree. All this has been brought prominently to the Chief's notice, who has promised me to return to his capital as soon as the state of his health will admit of his doing so. In the meantime, he has made the best possible arrangements for carrying on the Government and for remedying the evils which have already crept in; and I am not without hope that this may yet be secured at no distant date.

44. Khetree has suffered proportionately more from the famine than, perhaps, any other part of the Jeypore State; not that the drought has been any greater, but the unfavourable peculiarity of the soil, and the comparative absence of well-irrigation have caused the distress to be more than ordinarily severe in this district, and this has been still further aggravated from the fact of the crops having been for the preceding two (2) years a good deal below average ones.

45. These untoward circumstances have necessitated the postponement of the renewal of the three (3) years' revenue settlements, which expired in the month of September last, and which it was the intention of the Chief to extend for a further period of ten (10) years: this, however, he assures me, will be done at the commencement of the next official year, or as soon as the state of the country will conveniently admit of it.

46. I have been unable to obtain a Statement of the receipts and disbursements of the year. I believe, however, from the failure of the crops and the large advances and remissions which have in consequence been made to the zemindars and landholders, that the State is financially in a less prosperous condition than when reported upon last year.

47. Famine relief measures have been liberally supported by the Chief.

Public Works and irrigation schemes have, I understand, been undertaken, on which as many as 1,000 persons obtain daily employment.

Large remissions, as I have already noticed, have been made in the land revenue where such appeared called for, while temporary medical depôts and dispensaries have been opened with a view of affording medical relief and accommodation for the increased sickness which will in all probability follow a continuance of the prevailing distress.

82. The greatest praise is due to the officials of the jail for the admirable arrangements that have been introduced during the year and the efficiency with which they have been carried out; while the firmness and liberality of the Maharaja in supporting their efforts are worthy of all commendation.

83. Dr. Maenamara, of Calcutta, who paid a professional visit to His Highness in the month of March last, spoke in the highest terms of what he saw in the jail.

The general healthiness of the prisoners, he said, was highly satisfactory, and the discipline and interior economy of the prison the best without exception that had come under his observation, even in our own provinces. Such testimony from a source so competent and reliable speaks most strongly in favour of the institution and its officials.

Public Works.

84. In the last year's Report it is mentioned that the entire length of this road on the Agra side was completed, and that only about 15 miles of metalling remained to finish the section in the Ajmere direction. This metalling is now finished, so that, with the exception of a few small bridges and culverts which are approaching completion, and which it is expected will be ready by the end of this month, the entire length of this road in the Jeypore territory, about 125 miles, has been completed and opened for traffic.

85. The road is reported to be in excellent condition throughout. Trees have been planted on both sides and mile-stones laid down throughout the entire length of the line; while substantial and commodious Staging Bungalows, in all eight in number, have been provided at convenient distances for the accommodation of travellers.

86. The causeways which the Durbar has resolved to substitute for bridges over the larger rivers, under the circumstances explained in the 52nd paragraph of my last year's Report, are completed.

87. As an imperial work, the road will bear very favourable comparison with any similar work in our own provinces, while the arrangements for its maintenance and repair are admirable. The establishment kept up for this purpose is of the most efficient and liberal character, and when it is borne in mind that the Durbar receive no subsidy on this outlay, too much praise cannot be accorded to it: as a whole, the work is most praiseworthy and reflects the greatest credit on Colonel Price, by whom it has been designed and so successfully carried to completion.

88. This road, which is a branch diverging from the trunk line at Chota Paloo, about 33 miles from Jeypore, is now fairly under construction. The earthwork has been entirely finished, and it would have been metalled also, but for the great difficulty which is at this season experienced in obtaining carriage. This has been so great as to bring the metalling and masonry work almost to a stand-still.

89. When completed, the Sambher road will be one of great commercial importance, not only as a feeder to the main line, but more particularly as an auxiliary in opening up and giving an impetus to the

salt traffic from the Sambher Lake, while in the present scarcity and poverty it has been most opportune in giving labour and a means of support to hundreds who must otherwise have succumbed to the famine.

90. The length of the road is $15\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and its estimated cost Rupees 62,000.

91. The civil works undertaken and completed during the year are of the most varied character, and might, perhaps, be more readily and correctly estimated by the amount expended upon them than by a description of the nature and extent of the works themselves.

92. The Durbar's grants for these works alone for the past Raj official year (July 1867 to August 1868) aggregate Rupees 4,41,879, of which about Rupees 4,12,000 has been expended.

93. Of the more important of these may be mentioned the—

Public Garden.	3 Dwelling-houses for Euro-
Public Latrines.	pean servants of the Dur-
City roads and general im-	bar.
provements.	2 Staging Bungalows and Se-
New Bazaar at Majee Bagh.	poys' Barracks.

94. The public garden is especially deserving of notice, promising to be one of great magnitude and one of the chief adornments of the place. Its dimensions are $2,200 \times 1,500$ feet, and its site, which is one of the most central obtainable, has been selected by the Maharaja himself, specially with a view to the convenience and interest of the public and his subjects generally. The garden will be divided into Botanical and Zoological sections, and furnished with an Aviary, Band Stand, Fountains, a Palace with terraces and corridors, and other appurtenances that may suggest themselves as the work advances.

95. As the levels admit of the water being brought to it from the city, it is proposed to irrigate it in connection with the scheme which is now under consideration for supplying the city with fresh water from the Amance Shah River, and which has already been noticed in the 57th paragraph of my last year's Report.

96. The Maharaja proposes to have this garden second to none in India; and some idea may be formed of his intention from the extent of the preliminary grants, which alone already amount to some Rupees 80,000.

97. The public latrines have for the present been introduced experimentally. Two only have as yet been constructed, but should these prove beneficial, as it is fully expected they will, it is proposed to adopt them more generally.

98. The paving, draining, and general conservancy of the city and suburbs progress steadily, and since my last Report arrangements have been made for watering the main streets, and a project for lighting them with Kerosene lamps, mounted on ornamental pedestals and shafts, is approaching completion.

99. While these works, as well as many others of minor importance, are being pushed on, and furnishing labour and support to as many as 3,500 persons, the following other undertakings have obtained the

sanction of the Maharaja, and will be taken in hand as the Executive Engineer's time will admit of it:—

1st.—Scheme for supplying the city with fresh water, &c.

2nd.—General irrigation scheme.

3rd.—Branch roads through the more important and thickly populated districts in the immediate vicinity of the capital, as feeders to the projected Rajpootana Railway.

100. A class has been established in the Jaypore College for training young men in the science of engineering, levelling, surveying, &c. This will not only be an encouragement to local education, but the Durbar will by this means have at all times a staff of qualified men from which to recruit its own establishments independently of foreign aid.

101. Though the most of the foregoing works are essentially relief works, and devised more immediately with a view of affording employment to the suffering classes at this critical period, they appear all to be wisely considered, and calculated to be more or less remunerative to the State itself.

102. The total amount expended on all heads in the Public Works Department (including establishment) from the 1st January to 31st December 1868 is put down at Rupees 3,95,655, the percentage on the outlay for establishment and contingencies being about 6 per cent.

103. This Office letter dated 26th November last, to your Political Agent, to Agent, Governor General, letter dated 26th November 1868. address, refers to the creditable manner in which these works have been conducted by Lieutenant Jacob, the Officiating Executive Engineer, and the high place he has won in the esteem and confidence of the Maharaja, who, as you are aware from the correspondence marginally noted, has urged that the services of this officer be still continued to the State.

104. The correspondence above quoted also refers to the favourable opinion pronounced by the Superintending Engineer for Rajpootana, who had an opportunity recently of inspecting the works and the routine of the department generally.

Medical Institutions.

105. At this dispensary there were 6,588 out-patients and 147 in-door patients treated during the year, against 6,462 and 212, respectively, for the preceding year.

City Dispensary.

The percentage of deaths to treated is greater by 4 per cent. than it was last year, which Dr. Burr accounts for by many cases having been admitted in the last stage of disease. The falling off in the number of in-door patients is attributed to the inadequateness of the Durbar's limited grants and the enhanced prices of medical necessaries.

This has been brought to the notice of the Durbar, and, I dare say, will be corrected without delay.

106. In consequence of two only out of the eight Medical Students referred to at paragraph 73 of last year's Report having passed the Native Doctor's

Branch Dispensaries,

Postal Department.

112. No new imperial Post Offices have been opened in this State during the year under review.

113. The one opened experimentally at Singhana, as noticed in my last year's Report, has worked satisfactorily, and has been made permanent.

114. As this department, however, will be reported on by the officer properly speaking responsible for its supervision, I need not enter into further departmental detail.

115. In my last Annual Report I briefly noticed the objections put forward by this Durbar to the extension of our postal communication within its territory. This objection is urged on grounds which I fear may not generally be understood.

116. I am not prepared to state the exact length of the line, but I am assured that there is not a town of any importance in the whole of the State at which a Raj Post Office has not been established by the Durbar. These Offices are in every way complete, and appear to be managed by a staff of officers controlled by rules and regulations much the same as exist in our department.

117. The revenue which the State derives from this source is very considerable, which at once furnishes a fair and very intelligent reason for the Durbar's jealousy of our postal extension within its jurisdiction.

For the protection of these lines the Durbar maintains a large establishment at a considerable expense to the Government. The Offices are, I understand, tolerably well-conducted, and appear to have the confidence of the community.

118. Under such circumstances, it is not to be wondered at if the Durbar think it rather a hardship, after doing all this for the establishment and efficient administration of its own postal department, to be called upon not only to hold itself responsible for the safe transit of our mails, but to protect, at an enormous additional cost, the whole of the imperial line which intersects the territory, and which, as far as this State is in a great measure individually concerned, might practically be done away with.

119. I have brought these circumstances forward, as it does not appear from the records of my Office that they have ever yet been represented to the Supreme Government, and as they prominently affect a question of very great importance both to ourselves and the Native Government.

Panchayat Court.

necessity of preserving its honor and dignity above all other considerations, and in which I trust I have not laboured unsuccessfully.

128. I am happy to state that the relations existing between the Political Agent and the Maharaja and his Durbar continue to be of the most satisfactory character.

129. I cannot conclude this Report without bringing to most favourable notice the very valuable services of Nawab Mahomed Fyz Ally Khan, Bahadoor, the head of the Council and right-hand adviser of the Maharaja. Holding the confidence and esteem of the Chief and the high and responsible office of Prime Minister, the controlling power of such an officer must necessarily be of the highest order; and it affords me much pleasure to be able to record my fullest testimony to the very creditable and praiseworthy manner in which he has fulfilled his trust. Possessed of large experience, of broad and enlightened views, and of an upright and benevolent character, the Nawab has been of incalculable benefit to the State, and a fund of strength and support to His Highness in introducing and carrying out the enlightened measures which I have noticed in this Report, and which reflect so creditably on the Government. In the Nawab the Maharaja is fortunate to possess an able and zealous Minister, and a man of real sterling worth. The value of his services to the State cannot be over-estimated.

APPENDIX A.

No. 168-115G., dated 29th September 1868.

From—MAJOR W. H. BRYNOR, Political Agent, Jeypore.

To—LIEUT.-COL. R. H. KEATINGE, C.S.I., V.C., Agent, G. G., Rajpootana.

WITH reference to my letter No. 150, dated the 22nd instant, reporting on the unpromising state of the crops in this district, I have the honor again to address you on the same subject.

2. While physically, I regret to say, the prospects of the harvest remain unaltered, it is nevertheless most gratifying to observe a very noble and praiseworthy disposition on the part of His Highness the Maharaja and his Government to do all in their power to alleviate the distress which so imminently threatens the people. However great her sufferings, Jeypore may well congratulate herself on her good fortune in possessing, especially at a time like this, the sympathy and regard of a Ruler so well able to appreciate the requirements of this emergency, and so ready at all times, where the welfare and happiness of his people are concerned, to practise that zeal and singleness of purpose to which the prosperity of the State owes so much, and for which the Maharaja is so conspicuously remarkable.

3. The instance which more particularly forms the subject of my present letter is by no means a singular one. The records of your own Office, and the Reports which have from time to time been submitted by my predecessors in Office will have doubtless already informed you of the many similar acts which have distinguished the reign of the present Ruler, and have deservedly received the commendation and reward of the British Government. You will have observed that not only have State

administration and the more ordinary measures of reform received a large share of his bounty, but that education, charities of life, the promotion of science and art, and the general diffusion of knowledge throughout his territory, have been most munificently supported and encouraged, while his antecedents abound with instances where his deference to the wishes of the paramount power and his laudable desire to please and consult its convenience, even to the detriment of his own interests, are largely displayed.

4. The measure, however, which I have now the pleasure more particularly to record, as far at least as humanity and self-denial are concerned, eclipses all. The enclosed document is the copy, you will perceive, of a proclamation just issued by His Highness, making a complete and unreserved remission of all transit dues and State charges on grain passing through his territory. The object of the measure is to alleviate the sufferings of his own subjects and to facilitate the importation of grain into British and other districts mainly dependent on the supplies which pass through the Jeypore territory. This action is worthy of all praise, and did not proofs already abundantly exist, the spontaneous and unsolicited nature of the concession and the large personal sacrifices which it involves ought to leave no doubt as to the sincerity and single-heartedness of his motives, and of the integrity of his intentions to promote the well-being and happiness of his people.

5. This arrangement for the removal of the restrictions on the grain trade, though just matured by the exigencies of the times, has been for some time under the consideration of the Durbar. More than a year ago His Highness consulted me on this subject, and informed me of a scheme he then had in contemplation for the removal of the tax, and, in fact, for assimilating his customs arrangements generally to the system existing in our own provinces; and I have every reason to believe that the present is only a step in the right direction, and that we may confidently look for wider and more general improvements in this branch of his administration for the future.

6. His Highness has at all times consulted me freely in these matters, and I have endeavoured, as far as circumstances and my position at this Court justified, to tender him such advice as he appeared to stand in need of for the accomplishment of his object; and I am happy to be able to state that I have not only on all occasions found him able to appreciate, but most anxious and willing to follow, my counsels in such measures as I might deem well-considered and conducive to the interests of his Government.

7. I am the more induced to enter into the above details, feeling convinced of the purity of the motives which have actuated His Highness in this step, as well as of his anxious desire for the care of his people and to rule his country creditably, and in such a manner as to earn the approbation and esteem of the Supreme Government. I hope, therefore, his proceeding may meet your approval, as well as that of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, to whom I trust you will represent the matter with such commendatory remarks as may secure for His Highness some fresh mark of the favourable consideration of Government, and thus stimulate him to increased exertions in his laudable undertakings.

APPENDIX B.

RETURN showing the number of Schools in the Jeypore State, and their attendance, supported by His Highness the Maharaja of Jeypore.

	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS.				NUMBER OF SCHOLARS.			
	English.	Hindee and Sanscrit.	Persian and Oordoo.	Total.	English.	Hindee and Sanscrit.	Persian and Oordoo.	Total.
Vernacular Schools in the city ...	...	93	27	120	...	2,567	492	3,059
Schools in the zillahs and towns ...	...	144	26	170	...	3,570	446	4,022
Female School ...	...	1	...	1	...	160	...	160
Collego at Jeypore ...	1	1	1	3	142	145	192	479
Total ...	1	239	54	294	142	6,418	1,130	7,720

APPENDIX C.

Health Return of the Jeypore Jail for the year 1868-69.

Total number of prisoners treated during the year ...	722
Number Cured ...	623
„ Relieved ...	24
„ Died ...	52
„ Remaining...	23
	722
Percentage of deaths to treated ...	8.4
„ of „ in Diarrhoea ...	14.6
„ of „ in Fevers...	9.6

APPENDIX D.

STATEMENT showing the comparative cost of maintaining the Medical Institutions of the Jeypore Durbar with that of similar institutions in the North-West Provinces for the year 1868-69.

	Cost of Europe medicines.	Cost of bazar medicines.	Amount of extra expenses.		TOTAL.	Number of out and in-patients.			Cost of each patient for medicines and extra expenses.	Total amount of expendi- ture, including salaries of establishment.	Total cost of each patient.
			Rs.	a. p.		Rs.	a. p.	Rs.				a. p.	Rs.	a. p.
Agra ...	507 13 3	57 4 4	1,043 10 6	1,608 12 1	15,955	14,514	1,441	0 1 7-4	12,981 6 8	0 13 0-6	
Meerut ...	118 5 7	53 11 4	402 5 0	574 5 11	6,069	5,422	647	0 1 6-16	3,821 11 0	0 10 0-8	
Saharnpore ...	149 4 6	75 0 6	282 10 3	506 15 3	9,300	9,180	120	0 0 10-4	9,511 8 1	1 0 9-8	
Ajmere ...	168 12 6	135 11 5	148 7 0	402 14 11	8,748	8,423	325	0 0 8-8	2,995 13 8	0 5 5	
Jeypore ...	260 0 0	123 0 0	190 0 0	573 0 0	6,735	6,588	147	0 1 1-2	3,136 11 8	0 7 4-4	

(Sd.) W. H. BEYRON, Major,
Political Agent, Jeypore.

The 30th May 1869.

APPENDIX E.

ABSTRACT of the Meteorological observations at Jeypore for the year 1868-69.

PLACES AT WHICH OBSERVATIONS TAKEN, AND YEAR FOR WHICH TAKEN.	RAIN-FALL IN INCHES.				AVERAGE TEMPERATURE IN THE SHADE.												PREVAILING WINDS.			REMARKS.
	January to May.	June to September.	October to December.	Total.	May.			July.			December.			January to May.	June to September.	October to December.				
					Sunrise.	2 P. M.	Sunset.	Sunrise.	2 P. M.	Sunset.	Sunrise.	2 P. M.	Sunset.							
Nathanco ka Bagh in Cantonments ...	1.75	6.34	...	...	88.9	93.3	93.4	87.9	88.6	87.7	66.6	68.9	66.8	W.	W.	W.		
City Dispensary for 1868	...	...	...	...	88.9	93.3	93.4	87.9	88.6	87.7	66.6	68.9	66.8	W.	W.	W.	
Total ...	1.75	6.34	...	8.9	88.9	93.8	93.4	87.9	88.6	87.7	66.6	68.9	66.8	W.	W.	W.				

(Sd.) K. BURE, M.D.,
In Medical Charge, Jeypore.

APPENDIX F.

STATEMENT showing the working of the Jeypore Court of Vakeels for the year 1868:

DETAIL.	No.	REMARKS.
Under trial, 1st January 1868.	79	The average duration of the suits was nine months and 17 days.
Instituted during the year	97	The total amount of decrees given was Rupees 23,715 against Rupees 1,97,992, the aggregate amount sued for, or about 12 per cent.
Total ...	176	There were, during the year, seven cases of appeal, three of which have been thrown out, one admitted, and three not yet disposed of.
Settled during the year...	128	In seven of the cases adjudicated during the year, 38 persons have been sentenced to imprisonment. The crimes were principally dacoity and highway robbery; the terms of imprisonment ranging from 6 months to 14 years, the longer terms predominating.
Remaining unsettled, 31st December 1868 ...	48	

APPENDIX G.

ABSTRACT Statement of the number and nature of the cases adjudicated by the Jeypore Court of Vakeels during the year 1868.

NATURE OF CASES.	Number.
<i>Against the person.</i>	
Murder ...	8
Assault with wounding ...	3
Total ...	11
<i>Against property.</i>	
Highway robbery with aggravated circumstances ...	4
Ditto without ditto ...	38
Gang robbery with aggravated circumstances ...	2
Gang robbery without ditto ...	7
Theft ...	22
Cattle-stealing ...	28
Arson ...	1
Traffic in human flesh ...	2
Premeditated raids ...	2
Counterfeiting ...	1
Various ...	10
	117
Grand Total ...	128

The 30th May 1869.

(Sd.)

W. H. BERNON, Major,
Political Agent, Jeypore.

APPENDIX H.

JEYPORE SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS.

Extract from "Delhi Gazette."

"It is no inconsiderable proof of the advanced views and progressional tendencies of His Highness the Maharaja of Jeypore that he has himself assembled within his capital, under his special auspices and patronage, a Congress for the advancement of social science, and the diffusion within his territory of the benefits which can thereby be secured to the people.

"The inaugural proceedings of this Congress took place on the 26th of March last, advantage having been taken of Colonel Keatinge's visit to secure his support for, and co-operation in, so important a movement.

"The 'Medial Hall,' one of the many new institutions established by His Highness, was the place chosen for this meeting, which was largely attended by the chief members of the State and nobility, presided over by the Maharaja in person, supported by the presence of Colonel Keatinge, Agent of the Governor General, and Major Beynon, Political Agent at Jeypore. Most of the European and influential native residents were present also.

"Dr. Valentine, Vice-President of this Congress, to whom we believe is due the suggestion of the present as of many other useful projects for the social and moral advancement of the people, rose at the request of His Highness to explain the object of the meeting and the mode in which the Congress could most effectually carry out its important objects. Addressing Colonel Keatinge, he said—'The projectors of the Rajpootana Social Science Congress, in presenting you with a copy of the prospectus, wish me to express how much they feel indebted to you for the warm interest you have taken in the scheme, and, notwithstanding the many and arduous duties that occupy your attention, made all the more so from the famine with which it has pleased Divine Providence to visit the country, for the ready manner in which you have consented to become its patron and assist it with your advice and counsel. The prospectus which you have already seen and approved of is not intended to be the sole basis of the Society's operations, but rather indicating in a general way some of the subjects more immediately demanding its attention, while others naturally arising out of its workings, or from causes which cannot be at present provided for, will come under its consideration as they present themselves.

"The Congress, although having its origin in Jeypore, and in consequence much taken up with the discussion of matters connected with this State, is one which has no official connection with it whatever, but is intended to embrace the whole of the Native States and districts of Ajmere and Mhairwara, binding them together in one common bond of brotherhood for the encouragement of social, intellectual, and moral progress.

"The projectors of the Congress have been then very careful to place it upon this independent footing; believing that the work of social progress in India, to be efficiently done, must be undertaken by the

people themselves, with only such assistance as a wise and liberal Government (after being asked) may consider absolutely necessary.

"They have been brought to this conclusion from the abundant opportunities they have had in observing the condition of matters in this State.

"For upwards of the last 20 years His Highness the Maharaja in the most liberal manner has been making roads, digging wells, erecting and supporting schools and other charitable institutions in the various parts of the state, and yet, with the exception of *khalsa* territory, scarcely a school, dispensary, or a road worthy of the name exists. The custom has been to look to the Raj for the doing of everything. One of the chief objects of the Conference is to undertake these things themselves. His Highness the Maharaja, while he will in no way diminish his efforts as the Ruler of this State for the good of his people, has, as a private citizen, come forward with a liberal donation to this Society of Rupees 5,000, a promised subscription of Rupees 600 annually, and will continue to interest himself in and assist it in its workings. His Highness has also bespoken 40 copies of the newspaper for distribution to the heads of Offices in various parts of the State, and for the Vakeels accredited to the various Agencies in Rajpootana.

"Hakim Mohammed Jahum Khan has generously made over to the Society his printing establishment complete.

"Such is a brief outline of what is contemplated by the Society, and the principles upon which it has been founded.

"Relying upon the sincerity and hearty co-operation of each member, upon your assistance and advice, and upon the blessing of Almighty God, the projectors hopefully look forward to the time when the Society will be the means of advancing those objects which the best friends of Rajpootana so earnestly desire and look for.

"The prospectus which the projectors of the Society have drawn up is as follows:—

.... "1. The objects of the Society shall be to enlist the attention of the community in subjects of general interest and importance, such as hygiene in all its departments, the preservation of the health of the State, and the best means to be employed in arresting the progress of epidemics when they have actually made their appearance. 2. The best means to be employed for improving the condition of the agricultural communities, imparting information, digging wells, making tanks and other irrigation works, as also the introductions of new and improved forms of agricultural appliances, calculated in a more efficient manner to bring out the resources of the soil. 3. The diffusion of education by the formation of normal and extension of village schools. 4. The formation of classes for the study of the higher branches of mental and physical science. 5. The formation of a regular fortnightly meeting to be held in the Medical Hall, until a separate house is provided for it, when, by means of lectures, or conversaziones, information may be supplied on subjects coming within the scope of the Society, and concerting plans for their being practically carried out. 6. The formation of a means of communication with other Societies of a like nature, receiving their Reports, and profiting by their experience, keeping

them also advised of the work in Rajpootana, the difficulties encountered, and the manner in which these have been overcome. 7. The publication of newspapers in which the meetings of the Society will be reported, the addresses and the discussions published, original articles on all departments of science and literature, as well as a vehicle for ventilating subjects of general interest connected with Rajpootana. 8. The Society shall consist of Patrons, Vice-Patrons, a President, two Vice-Presidents, two Secretaries, Ordinary and Honorary Members. 9. Any gentleman wishing to become a Member of the Congress must be proposed by a Member, and voted in at the next meeting of the Society, and shall continue to be a Member as long as he continues to pay the usual subscription of Rupees 10 annually.

“ Colonel Keatinge expressed his acknowledgments to His Highness the Maharaja, Dr. Valentine, and to the meeting generally, for the honor they had done him in conferring upon him the patronage of so important a movement, and briefly indicated the many advantages which such a Congress, rightly worked, would secure to the whole community of the State. The main object of this movement, he said, was to stimulate the advancement of knowledge in all its branches amongst the adult population. Much had already been done by the munificence and energy of His Highness to promote the education of the young; but it is one thing to observe to teach boys reading, writing, and arithmetic, and the other rudimentary branches of knowledge, but quite another to instruct men in the wonderful secrets of science and their useful application to practical life. This is the duty the Members of this Congress have undertaken to perform, and it behoves every one, who has the ability, to aid them by every possible effort in so praiseworthy and arduous a work.

I have much pleasure in mentioning the name of Dr. Valentine in connection with this and other similar institutions which have lately been inaugurated by this Durbar, and which have for their object the social and moral advancement of the people. Dr. Valentine is deserving of the greatest praise, not only as being the projector of these valuable institutions, but for the ability, zeal, and disinterestedness with which he continues to labour for their advancement and the ultimate fulfilment of their object.

The following is a purport of the scheme above referred to:—

“That the Nobles of Jeypore, in order to feel the responsibility that rests upon them in the exalted positions in which they have been placed by Divine Providence to govern and regulate the affairs of their subjects, and that they may be taught the principles upon which all good government depends, the Jeypore Social Science Congress would

recommend His Highness the Maharaja to use his influence with the Chiefs to send in their sons to Jeypore for education.

"The Social Science Congress would further recommend to His Highness the Maharaja the establishment of a separate school to be entitled the Jeypore Nobles' School, with a competent staff of teachers in Sanscrit, Hindee, Arabic, Persian, Oordoo, and English, where lectures in the natural and physical sciences should be delivered and instruction afforded in the higher branches of education not generally taught in public schools, such as social and political economy.

"That His Highness the Maharaja be recommended to establish scholarships and prizes for those students who shall distinguish themselves in their studies.

"That His Highness the Maharaja should establish a large boarding-house, with ample accommodation, for the pupils and their suite attached, to which there should be a riding school and gymnasium, with regular hours set apart for instruction in riding, the sword exercise, and other athletic exercises; the object being to qualify the pupils both mentally and physically for the high position which they will be called upon to occupy."

(Sd.) W. H. BEYNON, *Major,*
Political Agent, Jeypore.

MARWAR AGENCY REPORT.

No. 38-14P., dated 11th June 1869.

From—COLONEL J. C. BROOKR, Officiating Political Agent, Marwar, &c.

To—COLONEL R. H. KEATINGE, C.S.I., V.C., Agent, G. G., Rajpootana.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the information of Government, a Report on Marwar for the year 1868-69.

The Famine.

2. In reviewing the history of the past year, the subject which fills the mind is the terrible famine from which the country is suffering.

The rainy season of 1868 commenced early in June. The first falls were succeeded by a long break, during which the grass sprouted, and withered away again. The husbandman, however, ploughed his fields and sowed his seed. A second fall of rain in the early part of July caused the crops to attain a height of about twelve inches, and the grass to appear again, but not sufficiently high to be grazed by cattle. No other showers succeeded. A strong cool south-westerly wind, most pleasant to the feelings, but most disastrous to the ryot, blew steadily day and night, driving before it with tantalizing speed light misty clouds which obscured the sun, but which besprinkled the earth with no fertilizing showers. Week after week of the same weather passed. The stunted crops made futile efforts to form heads of seed, and the grass became thinner and thinner, till the fierce October sun burnt up altogether what remained, leaving Marwar an arid and withered expanse. A field here and there which had been very early sown may have escaped, but it was very exceptional. There was not a blade of grass to cut and the seed sown was lost. At Jodhpore itself, where it seldom rains either in June or July, sufficient rain did not fall to run off the rocks, so that the tanks, on which the city mainly depends for water, and which were almost dry at the time, have received no supply since September 1867.

3. The Marwar ryots had been accustomed to periodical failures either of grass or of the grain crops, but the two had never failed in the same year. In the great famine of the Sumbut era of 1869 (A. D. 1813), which was the most calamitous in Rajpootana of which there is record, grain, indeed, failed, and was not to be purchased, but there was plenty of grass, and the herds were saved. The Christian era of 1869, however, when there is neither grass nor grain, will be for Marwar a far more terrible epoch. Not only is Marwar afflicted, but neighbouring countries also suffer. In seasons of scarcity the ryots had been accustomed to find relief in them, and especially in Malwa, which was regarded as a land of plenty, where famines were unknown. This year, however, the failure of the rainy season has been more extended, and Malwa, given up to opium, to the exclusion of grain crops, does not offer the same relief as it did in former years.

forage killed off large numbers, and the emigrants have been beggared. Those who went towards Radhumpore (and amongst them the Mul-lanee ryots) have suffered in the same way from the unsuitability of climate and forage.

Non-agricultural classes.

8. In addition to the agriculturists, nearly all the artizan and lower classes have left the country. The Guzerat floods gave employment to these in the rebuilding of the towns and villages which had been swept away. Others who went eastward have found employment in the public works inaugurated by the British Government, which have been the means of saving many. They left to seek for countries in which grain was cheaper than in Marwar, and they have not only found cheaper food, but the wherewithal to purchase it.

Number of emigrants.

9. It is difficult to estimate the number who have migrated. The northern portion of Marwar is deserted. In the more fertile portions the towns are still inhabited, but the villages are as villages of the dead; only a few women and one or two old men being left to look after the houses. So long ago as last September, I calculated that three-fourths of the population had left the country, and I have found no cause to change my estimate further than excluding from it the Jeytaran, Sojut, and Godwar Pergunnahs, which stretch along the base of the Arravalli, and whence the emigration has not been by any means so great.

Loss of population.

10. It is too early to say how many of the emigrants will return to Marwar. There is no doubt that the population of the country will be permanently diminished, I should say by $\frac{1}{4}$ less than it was before the famine. Many will settle in the countries to which they have emigrated, and the want of good government and misrule, which has prevailed for the last few years in Marwar, will deter others from coming back. Any Native State will welcome the advent of the hard-working and thrifty Jats, of whom the mass of the agricultural class is composed; and though they would naturally return to their own homesteads, yet penury and the loss of the means of ploughing their fields will act as a great check to their return.

Loss of cattle.

11. Besides the loss of population, the loss to Marwar in the destruction of its great mainstay, its cattle, is dreadful to contemplate. Marwar, over its greatest extent, is essentially a pastoral country. Large herds of magnificent horned cattle of the species used for native Ruths and Bylees, and called Nagore cattle, from the name of the principal place where they are bred, roam over its vast plains, which yield a peculiarly nutritive, perennial grass. In the dry climate and on a soil peculiarly suited to them they thrive and increase rapidly, and the young are sold at the annual fairs at Purbutsar, Pokhr, and Tilwarra, where they realize large prices—for unbroken cattle, from Rupees 80 to 250 a pair. They are, consequently, a source of wealth and prosperity to the country. They require cleanliness and good feeding, and when they leave their own native pastures, unless they are carefully tended, they die in great

numbers. Their peculiar constitution, therefore, was not able to resist the scanty and miserable fare to which they were doomed during the famine, and therefore the loss in this species of cattle has been very large.

12. There are about 4,500 inhabited villages in Marwar; and if we reckon 1,000 head of cattle per village, or even 500 (when we shall be very much within the mark), we shall have 2,250,000 head of horned cattle for the country. All these, with the exception of about one-tenth, were taken out of Marwar by the departing emigrants. Two millions at least of cattle and three quarters of a million of human beings poured in great floods over the neighbouring countries! Where, however, are now the cattle? The tenth which remained behind may be said to have died off. The masses of bones round the villages and the few walking skeletons left attest the frightful mortality. An almost equal mortality appears to have followed the herds. Those that went to Mulwa suffered fearfully. The emigrants to Guzerat and Radhumpore have lost most of theirs, and when to these are added the numbers which have been sold for a mere trifle for the purchase of food, I do not think I shall be exaggerating when I say that the wealth of the country in its horned cattle will have been reduced to one-fourth what it was at the same time last year,—a loss which, I believe, is unprecedented.

Rubbee harvest.

13. But the failure of the khureef harvest and the grass crop did not make up the full losses during the year. The rubbee at one time promised well. Light rain fell in January, and again in February, and recovered what before was yellow and sickly. I had calculated in my

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letter of the 1st March that there would have been a 10-anna crop on an 8-anna sowing, and that the produce would have been 250,000 maunds of grain from 30,000 beegahs of land, or sufficient for the food of the population left in the country for 7 months. After writing that Report, however, stormy, cloudy weather came on, and greatly blasted our hopes. The barley was not injured, but the wheat was blighted, and an expected 10-anna crop was reduced to a 6½-anna crop or to 162,500 maunds, being only a 5 months' supply for the diminished population.

Future prospects.

none being obliged to subsist on wild berries, &c. Many natives are of opinion that at Jodhpore large stocks are held by the officials, but I do not credit this, as the late high prices would have ensured their production. The nominal bazaar rate is $5\frac{3}{4}$ seers per rupee, but the real rate is only $4\frac{3}{4}$; and at this price there is a scramble for it as soon as a store is opened. The famine will paralyze the energies of the country for years to come, and a long repose will be needed before Marwar will recover the heavy losses to her material prosperity caused by this fearful calamity.

15. Early measures were suggested by you for opening out the various sources of supply; and amongst them was the deputation of a respectable Native Agent to Jeysulmere, who should encourage native merchants to carry grain to Marwar from Seinde, see to the security of the roads, and otherwise do all in his power to mitigate the hindrances with which trade has to struggle on this route. Abbas Aly, late a Ressaldar of the Jodhpore Legion, who had saved the Adjutant of the Regiment when carried away by the mutinous Legion, was the official appointed to this duty. His advent at Jeysulmere at once gave confidence to the traders, secured the safety of the roads, and ensured a large supply of food. He reached Jeysulmere in the middle of November, and the number of camels laden with grain since sent on by him has been as follows:—

	<i>Strings of Camels.</i>		<i>Loads of grain.</i>	
For $\frac{1}{2}$ November 1868	..	30	..	620
„ December „	..	198	..	4,802
„ January 1869,	..	153	..	3,411
„ February „	..	639	..	16,537
„ March „	..	137	..	3,059
„ April „	..	216	..	6,656
Total	..	<u>1,349</u>	..	<u>35,085</u>

The total number which passed through Jeysulmere territory for Marwar is said to have been upwards of a lakh of camels laden with grain.

16. The grain conference at Ajmere was another of the measures which materially tended to place the food supply of Rajpootana on a better footing, and within reach of the poor. The Marwar Durbar had not previously abolished the duties on grain in Marwar, but after the conference this was done. The octroi and other duties on grain were also soon after abolished throughout Seinde.

17. The Thakoors of Mullanee consented to the abolition of the charges on grain passing through Mullanee some time before the conference.

Relief of the poor.

18. For the alleviation of the distress in Marwar no public works were undertaken by the Maharaja, nor was any assistance given either to the poor of the city, or to the ryots in the Crown villages. They were, perhaps, the only ryots who were utterly unaided for. The Hakims and Revenue Officers squeezed the last penny from them, and when the great emigration took place, the Customs Agent at the

Deysoorce Pass, before letting them pass, not only forced from them the cesses due for the year, but also a cattle tax for each head of kine taken out of the country, though the departure was forced by the seasons. It is but justice to say that this mode of getting money was reprobated throughout Rajpootana.

19. The towns of Jodhpore, Palee, &c., have not presented the mournful appearances which might have been anticipated. As so large a proportion of the population had emigrated, the poor in the cities were not more numerous than the charity of the better orders could support. Food was given at various places by wealthy inhabitants and by religious communities. Perhaps the most conspicuous was the Jarejajee Rancee, who distributed daily seven maunds of cooked food, besides double handfuls of grain after nightfall to the numerous class who are in too respectable a position to beg, and yet have been cruelly straitened by the late high prices. Many of the poor also were able to gain a livelihood at Jodhpore by bringing in water, and selling it at $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas a gurrah (earthen pot), the scanty water supply of the city thus giving a livelihood to many. Work was found for all others who came for it in the construction of a road of about four miles in length from the Agency to the Jhallore gate of the city. From 400 to 500 people were daily employed on this. Most of the women who came to work were the wives and children of sepoy and menial servants in difficulties from the high price of food, and not beggars from the city, who never showed themselves. On occasion of any holiday or festival, the number of labourers would fall off to about 150, a diminution for such a cause which does not augur for the existence of any very great distress amongst the population of the city.

20. In Palee the Bunnya class were also very charitable, and many distributed food to the poor.

21. I have already said that the Maharaja instituted no charities to relieve his subjects. This was doubtless a good deal caused by the difficulties of the State to procure grain. In Marwar all the Court attendants receive their food from the Commissariat as part of their salaries, and great establishments of horses and cattle are kept up. Through bad management and parsimony, no granaries had been maintained by the State for years, and the high price of grain, consequently, enhanced the expenditure to a ruinous extent: advances were at first made to the Commissariat from the Treasury, but these were soon exhausted, as no revenue was received from the country, and the Maharaja would advance no funds from his own privy purse. The price of grass was ruinous. When wheat was six seers per rupee, grass was only $5\frac{1}{2}$, and for some time it has not been procurable at all.

Liberal offer of His Highness Ali Morad of Khyrpore.

22. I would note here the liberal and kind offer (which was received by the Maharaja before the Raj stacks were exhausted) from the Nawab of Khyrpore, in Upper Scinde, inviting him to send all his horses and cattle into the Khyrpore territories, where there was plenty of forage, and where they would be looked after and sent back again after the famine. A respectable Agent was sent by the Meer to facilitate the march and to arrange for the halting-places. The apathy of the Court, however, prevented advantage being taken of the Nawab's

liberality, and the horses and cattle were allowed to die at their pickets. Of 1,500 horses, not 200 are left, and the cattle are also nearly all dead. It will take some 5 or 6 lakhs of rupees to replace these losses alone.

Arrangements by Raucses and Thakoors.

23. The Raucses and Thakoors managed differently from the Raj; advances in grain and money were made to the ryots. The revenue was remitted or postponed, and every means was used to keep them in their villages and to arrange for their cattle. Consequently, a marked difference exists between the condition of these villages and those of the khalsa; and their well-being will act favourably on the amount of food supply in the country during the coming months. The Thakoors, however, for the sake of securing a home supply for their own people, very generally prevented their Bunnys from selling grain at a distance from their villages. This was contrary to the doctrines we had inculcated; but with their lights it was natural, and certainly had the effect they wished of preserving their ryots.

Government of Marwar.

24. The natural ills from which Marwar is suffering have been aggravated by bad government. Last year my predecessor reported that the country was drifting into a helpless state of weakness and misrule. The Thakoors had combined to oppose the Maharaja in the Ghanerao case, and though their armed opposition had passed away with the causes which gave rise to it, still the combination remained. Agreeably to the advice they received, they remained at Jodhpore to represent their grievances. The Maharaja himself carried on the Government of the country; but his incapacity for any permanent attention to business was well known, and nothing had been done to adjust complaints, or to remedy evils. All business was at a stand-still, as Captain Impey could get no replies to ordinary correspondence or the most necessary expenditure sanctioned, whilst the dissensions in the Maharaja's own family had reached their height.

25. Such was the state of affairs on my arrival. The Maharaja had shut himself up in his zenana, and was accessible only to slave-girls and eunuchs, who monopolized all influence, and through whom only could messages reach the Royal ears. The revenues were either squandered by unworthy favourites, or else hoarded in the palace. Outside a system of plunder and oppression prevailed, and there was not even the semblance of justice. No crime was punished, and no check was placed on bribery, peculation, or extortion, whilst the humane character of the Maharaja much increased the evil.

Thakoors' grievances.

26. The principal Thakoors had been at the capital for seven months vainly seeking a hearing. On former occasions the Court had played off their internal feuds and jealousies against one another; but now their connection for a common object had resulted in a defensive alliance against their Sovereign, whom they accused of an insatiable lust for their landed possessions. The lesser Thakoors followed the lead of the greater, and as there had been no instance in the history of the

country of so powerful a confederacy, so all of the class felt that a crisis was imminent, and were anxious that it should come whilst they were still united. They were doubtful as to the action of the British Government in the matter. The leaders hoped for our intervention, trusting to making their own profit hereafter should a punchayet be appointed for the management of affairs. The lesser Thakoors had not the same prospects, and dreaded the innovation. Preparatory, therefore, to taking action in the matter, it was determined to forward a petition to His Excellency the Viceroy on the subject of their grievances. Before, however, the petition could be forwarded, affairs had come to a crisis.

Dewreeah case.

27. The spark necessary to light the flame was applied by the harsh conduct of the sepoys on duty at Dewreeah towards the Thakoorances, whose adoption of a son the Maharaja was desirous to prevent, with the view to the absorption of the estate, which is a sub-fief of Neemaj, into the fisc. The Neemaj troops relieved the Thakoorances, and took possession of the place. The Durbar assembled a force to assert its dignity, but the forces on the other side became so formidable, and the Raj troops, in arrears of pay, had so little heart for fighting, that delay fatal to authority in a State during an insurrection was forced upon the Durbar.

Insurrection of Thakoors.

28. The Thakoors, taking advantage of the inaction of the troops, prepared to take possession of the villages, of which they or their friends had been dispossessed, or to which, rightly or wrongly, they could lay the remotest claim, and were almost everywhere successful. The outlawed Thakoors of Awah, Asoph, Ahneeawass, Goolur, and Bajowass also repossessed themselves of their confiscated estates, and thus a complete revolution was carried out without anything deserving the name of opposition. To show how utterly disorganized was the Maharaja's Government, I may mention that 400 Infantry and four guns were despatched, on my advice, to Awah, a fortnight before its fall, and they should have reached in four days. I subsequently learnt that the guns had been left behind at one of the city gates, and the infantry had mutinied for pay at Palce.

Loss of Awah.

29. The loss of Awah was due entirely to the negligence of the Durbar. After its capture by our troops in A. D. 1858, we blew up the masonry bastions, but the levelling of the earthen ramparts and glacis and the filling in of the ditch were left to the Native State. Immediately on the departure of our forces, however, work was stopped, nor was it again resumed, notwithstanding the advice of the Political Agent. The Thakoor, consequently, easily re-entered by one of the fallen bastions, driving out the weak garrison and capturing their guns. By working perseveringly at the defences, Awah within a month was as strong as ever, and quite secured against any attack the Maharaja might direct against it.

Disturbances confined to Military classes.

30. There was one peculiarity in this revolution deserving of notice, that, whereas previously, when outlawed Thakoors had endeavoured to right themselves, they had been accustomed to hurry and put under contribution the Crown villages, no excesses of the kind were committed on this occasion. Only those villages intended to be occupied were interfered with, and any stray allay was not with the villagers, but between armed retainers on either side. This must be regarded as a decided improvement in Rajpoot warfare, to be ascribed to a conviction that the British Government might not actively interfere so long as the innocent cultivators were not molested. The general security which prevailed during the whole period of these changes was remarkable.

Agreement by the Maharaja for new administration.

31. In obedience to the instructions of Government, in reply to the memorial of the Thakoors, we proceeded to Jodhpore in December last. After long negotiations with the Maharaja, His Highness entered into an agreement, consisting of XII. Articles, with you, by which he bound himself to place at the disposal of the Ministry he had appointed a sum of fifteen lakhs of rupees for public expenditure; to manage all the Crown villages through them; and to place under them the whole civil and criminal jurisdiction of the country; to restrict his private expenditure to a certain sum; and not to alienate or divert any income from the State Treasury without the consent of the Political Agent. A settlement negotiated by the Political Agent for the expenses of the establishment of the heir apparent and the Maharaja's younger sons was also agreed to, and the Maharaja bound himself to abide by my decision, confirmed by the Agent of the Governor General, with the right of appeal to Government, if he desired it, on the following questions:—

1st.—The Hockmuanich, or secession tax.

2nd.—The disputes between the Darbar and the lately outlawed Thakoors of Awah, Asoph, Goolur, Aldneewass, and Bhoowass.

The agreement so concluded was to remain in force for four years, unless in the meantime a continuance of misrule, or the weakness of the Marwar Administration, should force the Government of India to active interference.

Ministry.

32. The Ministry chosen by the Maharaja, in conformity with the terms of this agreement, consisted of—1st, Joshee Hunraj, Chief Minister; 2nd, Mehta Bijay Singh, Fonjdaree Adawlut; 3rd, Mehta Hunjeewan, Revenue Dastur; 4th, Singhee Suttur Raj, Dewanee Adawlut; and 5th, Pundit Sheonarain.

Since the greatest amount of profit can be made by keeping the Ruler and the Thakoors at variance, not only do the Ministers of the State labour to this end, but also the Kamdars of the Thakoors, who are of the same class.

Joshee Hunsraj.

34. Of the Ministry appointed on the present occasion, Joshee Hunsraj was, perhaps, of all the officials of the State the most faithful to his master's interests, and the most careful to act up to his wishes, irrespective of all other considerations. He and his family are opposed to the Thakoors, by whom he is intensely disliked; and he is unpopular with other classes from his overbearing and violent disposition. He has considerable ability, an imposing presence, and frank address, and a strong and decided character; but is entirely wanting in conciliation and tact and a bad man of business, which prevents him being a good administrator.

Other Ministers.

Bijjey Singh and Singhee Sumrut Raj are of a party directly opposed to the Joshee, and were looking out for appointment of Minister for themselves. They are able men, but cannot be expected to be over-anxious that a Ministry in which Joshee Hunsraj is the head should succeed. Mehta Hurjeewun came from Ahmednuggur with the Maharaja when His Highness ascended the throne. He is an intelligent official, and particularly suited for the appointment in which he is placed. Pundit Sheonarain is also a foreigner. He has a good knowledge of English, and is much trusted. Both these latter are at present free from the intrigues in the Jodhpore Court, and, though of no marked character, are sincerely desirous of the welfare of the State.

The way in which the agreement has been carried out.

35. The Maharaja concluded the agreement, but has failed to carry out some of its provisions. Thus of the 15 lakhs promised, only 8½ lakhs were actually made over to the Ministry, whose action was quickly crippled from want of funds. The payment of the tribute, the arrears due to the Treasurer, and the large amounts required for the Commissariat, and the arrears to the troops and Civil establishments, soon absorbed the amount. The latter have not yet been paid in full, whilst the troops will be soon again a year in arrears of pay.

Heir Apparent.

36. The settlement of the establishment of the heir apparent was arranged after many delays. He was to receive, in lieu of all demands on account of himself and his Zenana (with the exception of his wives, who already hold estates,) the management of a pergunnah yielding one lakh of rupees a year. For many years the Maharaj Koowur, who is now 31 years of age, was allowed only a very precarious income, so that he was obliged either to run into debt, or to adopt the most questionable courses to obtain money for his expenses. The amount having been fixed, the Pergunnah of Godwar was assigned to him in payment of his stipend; any deficiency to be made good by the State, and all excess of revenue from good management to be divided equally between the Maharaja and himself. Since he took possession

of Goolwar, he has displayed considerable energy in hunting up various gaugs of predatory Meennas.

Younger Sons.

37. The amount fixed for the younger sons is Rupees 20,000 each per annum, but no settlement has been concluded in consequence of the expectations of the second son being beyond this amount. The Maharaja also is not particularly anxious to make over any more villages during his own life-time.

Succession Tax.

38. The question of Hookumnamah has been arranged, and I am informed that the terms proposed by me, and confirmed by you, have been accepted by the Maharaja. The principle of the settlement is—

- 1st.—That the tax should be levied at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Rakh, or yearly value of the estate on the Raj books.
- 2nd.—That in cases of succession in the direct line, no other Rakh payment nor service should be required for that year.
- 3rd.—That in cases of succession by collaterals, the yearly Rakh (8 per cent.) should be levied, but no service required for that year.

The exceptions were—

- 1st.—In cases in which the whole or portion is already excused, when a proportionate exemption should be made.
- 2nd.—If any Thakoor considers the above rate too heavy, he may allow one year's revenue to be taken by the Raj, for which year he will not be liable to Rakh or service.
- 3rd.—Cases in which succession shall have followed within one year after the last preceding succession, when only one Hookumnamah will be levied for the two; and cases when the succession shall have followed within two years, when one and a half Hookumnamahs shall be levied. Beyond two years, Hookumnamah shall be paid on each lapse.

Outlawed Thakoors.

39. The decision on the disputes between the Durbar and the Thakoors of Awah, Asoph, Goolur, Ahlueneawass, and Bajooawass, was given by me, and confirmed by you some months ago. It has not been yet accepted by the Maharaja, nor has it been appealed against, though I believe the appeal has been prepared for some time. The Maharaja's principal objection lies to the Awah Thakoor receiving from the State anything but a cash payment.

Mediation by Political Agent between the Maharaja and great Thakoors.

40. A mediation of the disputes between the Maharaja and the great body of the Marwar Thakoors was not arranged for in the agreement, but I undertook it at an early period, since, so long as the country was in a chronic state of rebellion and the Thakoors in possession of Raj villages, the Durbar was powerless to enforce the commonest orders in the districts. It was evident, too, that till peace was restored between the two parties, there might be at any time a call for our armed intervention. The mediation was first entered upon between the Durbar and the five Thakoors of Pokhurn, Koochawun Rās, Raiepore, and Neemaj. Each Thakoor had some particular cause of grievance which the Maharaja considered his dignity would be compromised by redressing; whilst each pertinaciously held out for his whole demand, neither party

for a long time being inclined to yield. The Thakoors were detained at Jodhpore at a great expense to themselves, and as they were already in possession of more than they expected to retain, they were anxious for a conclusion to the interminable negotiations, so that they might retire to their estates. The Durbar was afraid of the bad effects which the Thakoors' leaving without a settlement would necessarily have on the country, but was disinclined to surrender what was just. It was only after the Thakoors had actually marched one march that a compromise between the two parties was arrived at.

41. The effect of this settlement on the country was great. The Thakoors next in rank considered they had been betrayed, and had been left in the lurch. The news was alarming to those who had seized villages to which they had no just claims when they heard that the principal Thakoors had come to terms with the Durbar. The adjustment of the disputes with the lesser Thakoors was also rendered very much easier, and this was shortly afterwards entered on.

Mediation by Agent between Maharaja and remaining Thakoors.

42. The difficulty with the latter was to decide the period of the status of possession. The settlement by Colonel Ludlow in 1839-40, when 216 villages, yielding yearly Rupees 4,82,681-13, were made over to the Thakoors, was found not to have been upheld by that officer himself, the distribution by the Thakoors of what they had obtained proving to be unjust; whilst the grants made from villages resumed from the Nathis were not entered in the list. The status of the accession of Maharaja Tukht Singh was, therefore, proposed and readily assented to by both parties.

43. The number of villages in dispute was between 240 and 250. Of these, 130 or 140 had been occupied by men who had no just claim to them; but the remainder were in Colonel Ludlow's list. They comprised—

Confiscated before present Maharaja's accession	...	...	27
Never occupied by grantees	...	...	16
Grants to connections and foreigners (resumable)	...	...	12
Obtained through Court favourites	...	...	23
Confiscated for crimes	...	...	10
			88
Maharaja willing to restore	...	...	22
		Total	110

The Maharaja increased the number to be restored to 28, and there were a few others, regarding which enquiry was pending. With these exceptions, the Thakoors agreed to receive those given, and to vacate the whole of the remainder, which were not in the possession of the occupants at the time of the Maharaja's accession. Thus this question, which once threatened to convulse Marwar to its foundations, was amicably adjusted.

Civil and Criminal Courts.

44. Pursuant to Article I. of the Agreement entered into by the Maharaja, the Civil and Criminal Courts were placed under respon-

sible Ministers. The working of these Courts, however, has not been satisfactory, owing mainly to the Judges being antagonistic to the Minister. Besides, the palace and Zenana influences are so strong at Jodhpore, that it is almost impossible for a poor man to get execution of a decree against a defendant backed by them. The Courts continue to work in a spasmodic and irregular manner. It is, however, an improvement on the old system, and by keeping attention fixed on them, it is hoped that some further improvement will take place.

External relations.

45. The general security which prevailed during the progress of the revolution has been already alluded to. There was one exception, in the case of the country near Erinpoora, in the south-western corner of Marwar, where the unthrifty Meena population, driven to plunder by the failure of the khureef, took advantage of the weak condition of the Government to carry on their own internal feuds and to plunder on the high road. The village of Poomawa, held by a Bhomia, was particularly conspicuous in this, as was the Zenana village of Endol-rogoorah. The worst gangs of robbers, however, were the same who occupied the Mal-pahar Hill between Marwar and Sirohi in 1857-58 (mentioned in the 10th and 11th paragraphs of Captain Impey's Report). Their location latterly has been in Marwar, in a very difficult tract of forest country, near the village of Seyanah, whence they carry on their depredations. They seized some Bunnys of Jeynlmere in December last, and still hold some captives of the neighbouring districts. They are being now proceeded against by the Maharaj Koowur, who, since his assumption of the management of Godwar, has been particularly active in suppressing these marauders: one leader of the gang has been killed, and another leader and about 30 Meenas have been seized by him, and he is now preparing to hunt up the rest.

Bources on the Ajmere border.

each bowman in addition to taking a share of any plunder brought in, or the fine on account of plunder.

48. When a Bowree or a Meena commits a robbery in Ajmere and is traced to a Marwar village, an altercation is the certain result. The British Policeman is master of the situation for the time, and should he endeavour to seize anybody, the Thakoor resents the intrusion, and there is danger of collision, which might on occasion compromise the two Governments.

Bhatties of Jeysulmere.

49. The north-western districts of Marwar and Mullanee have suffered very much from the plundering incursions of the Bhatties of Jeysulmere. Posts were established by Captain Impey to prevent these incursions into Mullanee, but from the want of water and forage for the horses, most of the animals perished, and the posts had to be abandoned; camels were then sent to replace the horses, but they were inferior animals, and could not overtake the swift camels of the Bhatties.

Jhallore border.

50. The outlawry of Nuthoo Singh, Thakoor of Bhuttanah in Sirohi, has disturbed the Jhallore border of Marwar, the Marwar Thakoors in that neighbourhood being connected by marriage with Nuthoo Singh. They have given him shelter for days at a time, and amongst the most forward in doing so have been the notorious Loheeanah, Oochmut, and Purrin Thakoors.

Change in Maharaja's habits.

51. Though matters have improved in the last year, yet the Marwar Government still continues weak. This is a good deal caused by the suspicious and vacillating character of the Maharaja. When he first ascended the throne, Maharaja Tukht Singh was energetic and attentive to business, but afterwards the giving way to indulgence weakened his hold on his officials. Since the late difficulties in his country, the necessity for exertion has brought about a change, and he has refrained entirely from spirituous liquors, which previously were supposed to be undermining his constitution. He is now strong and in robust health, and, instead of shutting himself up in his private apartments, devotes several hours daily to public business. I do not despair of his recovering some of the promptitude and energy he first exhibited. Sincerely loyal in his feelings to the British Government, courteous in address, and hospitable and kind in all his relations, for a time the Maharaja was led by bad advisers to disregard the advice of the Political Officers deputed to his Court. The shock which his Government has sustained has shown him that his chief dependance must be on the support of the British Government, and he has now thrown aside all idea of acting in opposition to its wishes.

Agreement to pay for construction.

52. Guided by a sincere desire to obtain the favour and approval of Government, he has consented to pay for the construction of that portion of the Agra and Ahmedabad Trunk Road which passes through his territory from Burr to Erinpoora, a distance of 105 miles, and also for the road from Palee to Jodhpore, 40 miles. The formal agreement for

the construction of the first road was concluded by the Maharaja in April. By it the road is to be completed entirely by the Public Works Department, the Maharaja paying for its construction at the rate of one lakh of rupees per annum, till the whole amount, estimated at between six and seven lakhs of rupees, is liquidated. So public-spirited an act by His Highness, from whom a liberal policy had not been expected, is deserving of much commendation.

Palce Telegraph Office.

53. The new Telegraph Office at Palce is also under construction: but building is exceedingly difficult this year. There are no carts nor bullocks to bring in firewood to burn bricks. The donkeys are also dead; and the potters say that they themselves are spiritless and unable to work. About half the number of bricks required have been purchased, but the rest will not be procurable till after the rains; and I do not calculate that the Office will be entirely finished before the end of the year. It is to be a tiled building, on the same plan as the Jeypore Telegraph Office, and will cost about 8,000 to 10,000 Rupees.

Medical Officer's house.

54. At Jodhpore the house for the Medical Officer, which was previously quite unfit for the residence of a British officer, is being improved and enlarged, and will be a handsome and commodious house. The fine old Rowlee, near the Agency, and built at the same time as the Agency, is also being rebuilt with Ashlar masonry.

Extradition Treaty.

55. An Extradition Treaty was concluded between the British Government and the State of Marwar for the mutual surrender of heinous offenders, and signed on the 16th September 1868.

Post robberies.

56. The post was stopped three times in Marwar during the year under review, but, excepting on a single occasion, was not interfered with. The instances were—

- 1st.—On the 30th September 1868, between Deedwana and Koechnk, on the Shekawattee border and by Shekawut plunderers, when one parcel was carried off. The case is under investigation in Captain Powlett's Court at Soojanghur.
- 2nd.—On the 8th March 1869, the runner carrying the banghy mail was stopped near Palce, but on seeing the sowar in charge, the robber absconded.
- 3rd.—On the 3rd April seven Meenas stopped a runner and took his ready cash (said to be Rupees 12) from him, but did not touch the mail bag.

Highway robberies.

57. Thirty-two highway robberies have been committed during the last year. This is double the number in the previous year. Most of these robberies and all the important ones took place near Erinpooora, chiefly by the Mal-palnr gangs of Meenas. As mentioned before, the Maharaj Koowur is making preparations to destroy this gang, which is located in a difficult country and keeps a sharp look-out. The Durbar will be steadily pressed in the matter of the suppression of these gangs.

Court of Vakeels.

58. The Marwar Court of Vakeels held its sessions at Mount Aboo, Jodhpore, and Ajmere during the year. The famine, however, has interfered much with the work performed. During such a season plaintiffs could not leave their homes and travel to prosecute a claim, perhaps, for a few cattle. It would have been harsh to have thrown out their cases for non-appearance; and the Court decided that all such cases should be postponed till a more favourable season. The balance of cases undecided, therefore, is very large, and will still further increase in consequence of the Pahlunpore plaintiffs having made the like request for exemption from appearance, which has been admitted.

Cases undecided on 1st April 1869.	Received up to 1st April 1869.	Total.	Decided in the year.	Balance remaining on 1st March 1869.	CASES APPEALED.		
					Decision confirmed.	Decision revised.	Pending decision.
110	301	411	219	192	...	...	1

During the year Rupees 7,803-2 have been paid to plaintiffs in satisfaction of decrees by the Court.

Claims of Treasurer.

59. The balances due to the Treasurer have been diminished by the payment of Rupees 1,50,000 by the Marwar Government. His present balances are—

			Rs.	a.	p.
Marwar	...	...	100	0	0
Biccanere	...	...	26,325	0	0
Jeypore	...	...	125	0	0
Meywar	...	...	580	0	0
Sirohi	...	...	2,340	0	0
Pahlunpore	...	...	570	0	0
Kishenghur	...	...	270	0	0
Jeysulmere	...	...	8,460	0	0
Ajmere	...	...	381	0	0
Total	...	...	39,151	0	0

Health of the country.

60. The general health of the country has been good during the year under review. The only epidemic was small-pox, which raged at Jodhpore in the cold weather, and carried off about 600 children. Doctor Moore, who was then in temporary medical charge of the Agency, remarked at the time on the absence of the prejudice against vaccination on the part of the Marwarrees. Unfortunately, there is a want of good vaccinators. A proposal has been sent to me by Doctor Moore for an improvement in their position and an increase to their number, which I will endeavour to carry out before next cold season.

Dispensaries.

61. In the Annual Report for the Marwar Dispensaries for the year 1868 Doctor Moore remarked:—"The Marwar Dispensaries now in operation show a slight increase of attendance, although the full number treated in the State is less than for previous years. This results from the temporary abolition of one dispensary at Jessole. In June last year criminal charges were brought against the Native Doctor, who was necessarily suspended during the investigation. These charges were proved false, but as the Native Doctor had evidently made enemies, and as the population of the district was reduced on account of the famine, it was not considered advisable to re-establish the dispensary at present."

62. Doctor Newman joined the Marwar Agency on April 14th, 1869, *vice* Dr. King, who had been appointed to the charge of the Botanical Gardens at Saharunpore.

MULLANEE.

Famine.

63. The famine from which Marwar is suffering has been equally severe in Mullanee. A great proportion of the population emigrated and the cattle perished. Those that were sent to Radhunpore shared the same fate as those that remained, so that the resources of Mullanee have been for a time crippled.

64. The Thakoors have suffered largely in consequence of the number of their horses, which have died for want of forage. In Mullanee the Thakoors breed horses of a high-spirited and enduring race, which they sell at the Tilwarra Fair near Balotra. Some of the animals were sent to Jeysumere and Radhunpore, but many died there also from the change in diet. Unluckily, not many Thakoors have stacks, as a few showers causes a plentiful crop of grass to spring up, and a grass famine in Mullanee is rare.

Famine Works.

65. The smaller villages in Mullanee were early deserted for want of water. The poor, who could gain nothing by migrating, collected in Balmere, Jessole, &c., and it was necessary to commence famine works for their support; fortunately a fund was in existence, which enabled me to carry them out. In former times Maharaja Maun Singh had advanced Rupees 30,000 for the construction of tanks in Mullanee. When Captain Jackson had charge of Mullanee, two-thirds of this money had been spent in the construction of a large bund some miles from Balmere, which did not stand a single season, and was never rebuilt. The balance of the fund, amounting to Rupees 10,260-10-0, was deposited in the Jodhpore Raj Treasury by Major Malcolm in A. D. 1850. Sir Richmond Shakespear, in A. D. 1853-54, drew Rupees 2,500 from it to construct a well at the village of Bhootecha. There remained Rupees 7,760, which could not be applied to any other purpose by the Marwar Government, as it was set apart for charitable purposes. The following works have now been constructed from it:—

Tulao in Mullanee made in A. D. 1868-69.

1. *Sokun Tulao at Balmere*.—Amount expended Rupees 1,000-9-0, half of which was paid by the jaghiredars of Balmere. This is an old tulao, which required clearing out.

2. *Karelee Tulao*.—The town of Balmere has suffered much from want of water. This tank is new, and has been dug in a spot with a good influx of water and a strong clay soil, and at the end of March it was 106 feet long, 97 broad, and 7 feet deep. It was calculated to give an eight months' supply, and with the Sohun Tulao almost a year's supply was secured; but as it is very desirable to have at command upwards of a year's supply for Balmere, which is rapidly increasing in size, I have ordered the work to be continued till the Karelee will itself hold that amount. The sum expended has been Rupees 998-9-6, half of which has been paid by the Balmere Jaghiredars.

3. *Ohoba Tulao*.—Rupees 300 have been expended on this (a new tank). It will hold water for six months, but the principal object is to sweeten the wells below it, which are now brackish.

4. *Keelnoo Tulao*.—A new tank dug at a cost of Rupees 300 for the use of the Tukhtabad Thannah. There was only a short supply of water at this village and none for cattle, which were watered only once in three days. The length of the tulao is 141 feet, breadth 126 feet, and depth 6 feet. The soil is firm and hard.

5. *Neytrar Tulao* (a new tank).—This is one of the only villages under khas managomont. The sum expended has been Rupees 300. The soil is hard moormid, and the supply of water will be perennial. Length of tulao 225 feet, breadth 165 feet, and depth 15 feet.

6. *Baitoo Tulao* (a new tank).—Expended Rupees 300. Length 189 feet, breadth 156 feet, and depth 9 feet. The jaghiredars are too poor to contribute to this.

7. *Rutleyoo Tulao* (a new tank).—The soil is hard moormid, and the supply will be perennial. Length 300 feet, breadth 210 feet, and depth 15 feet. Cost Rupees 600, half of which is to be repaid next year by Thakoors Puddun Singh and Achul Singh, of Jessolo.

8. *Khair Tulao*.—An old puddle increased, not yet commenced for want of a Superintendent. The terms are to be the same as in the last. It is to be dug as soon as the Karelee Tulao is finished.

9. *Gholpalleca Tulao*.—Rupees 500 is proposed for this tulao. A Report on the soil is awaited; it is situated between several villages, to all of which it will be most useful.

10. *Well at Goorah*.—Expended Rupees 640. Goorah is a large town, without sweet water. This well has succeeded admirably, having excellent water, and being inexhaustible. Half of the expenditure is to be repaid by the jaghiredars.

Effect of the Tanks.

66. Thus, at the trifling expenditure of Rupees 4,500, of which Rupees 1,600 will be repaid by the people themselves, the poor of Mullanee have found employment and food during a year of famine, the town of Balmere, the capital of the district, has secured a water supply, and sweet water tanks have been scattered in various places over the country. I am indebted much to Ram Dass, the Deputy of Mullanee, for the care with which the spots for the tanks have been chosen, and for the good feeling which has been displayed by the population.

Bhaltee Plunderers.

67. Immediately after the rains the horses of the Jodhpore sowars on duty at Mullanee began to suffer from want of grass. The whole detachment of 150 sowars were soon *hors de combat*. Not a blade was to be had. The sowars let their horses loose to pick up a sustenance as best they might, but the poor brutes returned to their pickets to die, and not above 20 are alive of the whole number. No representations to the Durbar when all Marwar was disturbed to send camels in place of horses had any effect, and, consequently, Mullanee was

said to have scarcely exceeded one-third of an average yield, the estimate of the spring harvest is hardly 50 per cent. of an ordinary year. At present there is great scarcity of food at the capital itself, and, although efforts are being made to import a sufficiency of grain, I apprehend there will be very serious distress in Boondee yet. Emigration has greatly relieved the State.

There is no Chief in Rajpootana who more religiously closed his doors against exportation, and there are few who have derived so much benefit from the recent reversal of that policy, for without extraneous aid Boondee would have been reduced to most painful straits.

Condition of Kotah.

8. The prospects of Kotah have been more encouraging all through. The grain-producing districts of this State are dependent entirely upon the heavens for moisture. Water lies a great depth below the surface, and a well for husbandry purposes is rarely met with. Save, therefore, on the banks of rivers, artificial irrigation scarcely exists, and any failure of the periodical rains is calculated to produce much suffering. Fortunately, however, the rich land to the east of the Kalee Sind River was sufficiently moistened by timely showers in October last, to induce sowings with fair hope of the seed germinating; and although a severe hailstorm in February damaged the harvest considerably, that hope has been realized. Whilst, then, the loss on the khureef produce in this State is estimated at about one-third of an average season, the spring crop yield will, it is expected, give a return of 12 annas in the rupee, possibly 80 per cent.

9. In paragraph 21 of my Report for 1867-68 I observed:—“Kotah has suffered considerable agricultural distress during the past year, consequent upon too free exportation and unseasonable rain, which injuriously affected the khureef harvest. Food prices accordingly ranged very high; large parcels of cultivable land remained fallow for want of seed; some 8,000 or 10,000 of the people are said to have emigrated into neighbouring States, and the Durbar were compelled to import from our North-Western British districts.”

Although Kotah, therefore, has, from her great natural advantages of soil and other special blessings, suffered less than other States during the present scarcity, the partial failure to her of the previous year has caused considerable distress, which she might otherwise have escaped.

Condition of Jhallawar.

10. Jhallawar does not fall within the famine tract, nor is it a cereal-producing district: in the best of times this State grows but little grain, barely sufficient for local requirements, and the out-turn last year was considerably under that of an average season. Timely and judicious arrangements, however, were made for importing a sufficiency of food, and the rates have, in consequence, been little affected by the famine as yet.

Condition of Tonk.

11. As regards Tonk, I refer for particulars to the Report of Captain J. Blair, submitted separately. This State would have suffered much more but for its large Mahomedan population. The consumption of kine afforded to the people another means of subsistence, and as the starving multitudes passed through the capital in search of food for

themselves and for their cattle, the latter were to be had almost for the asking. Bullocks were, to my knowledge, sold for a rupee each, and as far back as October beef was procurable in Touk at 27 seers the rupee: indeed, the meat market was overstocked, for butchers could afford to buy cattle at such prices, but it was beyond their means to keep them, and they generally passed direct from the owner's hands to the slaughter-yard.

12. It speaks eloquently for the state of the times when we see and hear of the Hindoo bartering the sacred emblem of his religion to the Mahomedan, knowing the object for which the transaction takes place. His feelings of devotional superstition even succumb to the intensity of bodily suffering he has undergone, and the act conveys more to narrate reality than would the most graphic description of the sad period under review.

The Grass famine.—Its effects on the Meena Districts.

13. The effects of the grass famine have been lamentably disastrous in the Meena Kherar. The Assistant Agent furnishes statistical data of how this serious affliction has affected Touk. Boondée, Kotah, and Jhallawar have derived the advantage of an extensive hilly country, and, comparatively speaking, have escaped; but the Jehazpore District here alluded to, inhabited by a people who subsist mainly on the produce of their cattle, has suffered terribly, and many a long year must elapse ere they can recover a loss the memory of which will remain with life.

14. It has been sad beyond measure to pass through their villages and see the cattle in every stage of starvation, some actually dying before one's eyes; whilst the mounds of skeleton bones at each village gave it the appearance of a charnel house rather than a human habitation.

Mortality amongst cattle.

15. Some little idea of the mortality may be gathered when I mention that from the Returns of 20 small villages in the Meywar Kherar, it appears that up to the 28th ultimo had died no less than 295 bullocks, 2,408 cows, 602 buffaloes, and 775 calves; or a total of 3,170 head of cattle, which, if we estimate at an average of Rupees 10 per head, shows a loss of Rupees 41,700. There are 27 other Meena villages belonging to Jeypore and Boondée, but for which I have no Returns; the above, however, may be taken as a fair criterion of what the whole loss will amount to; and seeing that, humanly speaking, two months must elapse ere there be any relief, it may be estimated at considerably over a lakh of rupees.

Dearth of fodder for cavalry at Deolee.

16. It was for some time a matter of much anxiety how, with this dearth of fodder, the cavalry stationed at Deolee would be able to get on. At length the happy expedient was hit upon of allowing 50 per cent. of the men to go on furlough, which reduced our difficulties by one-half, and we shall be able to pull through comfortably. It has been necessary, however, to get grass from long distances, and to pay exorbitant prices, but this was a secondary consideration; the article could not be dispensed with, and the quantity was very limited: at this present time grass and grain are selling weight for weight at the same rates, and this in a grass country.

Relief measures in Boondce.

17. It remains to speak of the temporary measures which have been adopted to alleviate distress.

Boondce.

In Boondce, where works of relief would have mitigated much suffering, nothing has, in fact, been done; promises have been made, but never fulfilled. Impecuniosity the excuse urged. I consider the Maharao Raja has evinced want of energy in the matter of exportation also.

In every Native city a certain quantity of food is daily distributed to the poor, and this charity exists at Boondce.

Postponement of revenue.

18. All the States have in their own interests postponed collections of revenue.

Relief measures in Kotah and Jhallawar.

19. In Kotah, Jhallawar, and four districts of Tonk, there being no very unusual destitution, special relief works have not been absolutely necessary.

At the Kotah capital, however, the Maharao has put aside Rupees 36,000 this year to supplement the charitable dole of food which is always made; and at Jhalra Patun there are city improvements and roads under construction, which, though not famine works, have, by giving employment, undoubtedly alleviated distress.

Relief measures in Tonk.

20. To aid the Tonk and Rampoor Districts Government sanctioned a loan of a lakh of rupees for irrigational purposes.

At Tonk itself there is a Poor Relief Fund, established by the exertions of Captain J. Blair, on private subscriptions, aided by the State, for the support of the infirm and helpless. Five hundred such persons are daily fed, and more will have to be done, for the number of applicants increases daily.

Relief measures at Deolee.

21. A similar fund, now supported by Government, I raised in November last at Deolee, and it has afforded labour and maintenance to hundreds of the surrounding poor. This fund has been liberally supported by the Chiefs of Kotah, Jhallawar, Meywar, Jeypore, and Indurghur, and by monthly contributions from the European and Native officers and men of the 2nd Bengal Cavalry and Deolee Irregular Force, and the Vakeels and establishments connected with this Agency, as also the Buunyahs of the Civil and Military Bazzars.

By its means we have been enabled to build a very excellent charitable dispensary, which will prove a lasting benefit to the neighbourhood, besides the construction of some 14 miles of 3rd class roads; and the following Table, giving the average number of persons relieved during the past six months, will testify to the amount of good done.

22. In speaking of this Deoleo Fund I should be failing in my duty did I not bring prominently to notice the names of Dr. Crawford and Lieutenant Kemble, of the 2nd Bengal Cavalry, to whom every acknowledgment is due for the unceasing assiduity with which they have discharged their voluntary labours in keeping the accounts, supervising the work, and various other onerous duties connected with the Relief Fund. They have the satisfaction of knowing that the success of the institution has been the result of their philanthropic exertions, and that in a time of sore need they have earned the gratitude of many of their fellow-creatures.

Relief measures in Jehazpore District.

23. For the relief of the Jehazpore District the Meywar Durbar sanctioned an outlay of Rupees 14,000.

At my request a very promising site has been selected for bunding a beautiful lake, which is now in progress, and when completed will prove a remunerative irrigational work to the State, besides affording other great local advantages.

24. Ere concluding on this interesting but painful subject, I would remark that, whilst undoubtedly distress has been conspicuous everywhere, severity of suffering has happily, up to the close of the official year, been confined to a few districts only, and those classes have necessarily been affected most who have been deprived of temporary occupation. It is satisfactory to add, moreover, that, although many must have fallen victims to the deprivations incident to want, I have nowhere witnessed the horrors of famine which I must have done had they
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Future prospects.

25. But I do not shut my eyes to the fact that we have much cause for apprehension, until our fears shall be at an end by an early and seasonable monsoon, and the period which must elapse ere we can reasonably expect rain will assuredly witness sickness, misery, and want, more acute than any which has yet come before us.

26. The sanguine hope that prices would fall so soon as the rubber produce should reach the market has, in this part of India, proved a vain one; rates are steadily rising, and I fear will continue to rise, and until the khureef harvest begins to ripen in September next there will be little relief.

The large quantity of grain required for seed will injuriously affect prices. But we must look anxiously for the monsoon to afford a larger measure of employment to the starving poor than it is practicable to give by relief operations only. Unfortunately the paucity of cattle this year will seriously impede tillage.

TONK.

27. A separate Report on this State by Captain J. Blair, the Assistant Agent to the Governor General, on Special Duty, is herewith submitted.

President, Regency Council.

I endorse that officer's tribute to the "patience, tact, and prudence" evinced in the discharge of his very delicate duties by Sahebzadah Hafiz Ibadoollah Khan, the head of the present Administration.

The Mogheas.

28. The arrangements made by the Assistant Agent for putting down crime amongst the Mogheas are well considered, and, I trust, may effect the end desired. The success which has attended our efforts to civilize the Bheel and the Meena, by offering to them an opportunity of earning an honest livelihood, is sufficient to make us sanguine; and as the Tonk Durbar are compelled to keep a small number of troops for protective arrangements in the outlying pergunnah of Nimbhara, I purpose suggesting that, if other means fail, they could not do better than enlist Mogheas as soldiers after the example we have set them at Kherwarra and Deolee. A couple of hundred thus embodied would, I am of opinion, go far to pacificate the district.

Summary settlement of Peerawa District.

29. A detailed Report on the summary settlement of the Peerawa District, just effected by Captain Blair, has not yet reached this Office; but the zemindars of the district write me that the arrangement has given them much satisfaction; and as the reduction in the Government demand is insignificant, the result cannot but prove beneficial.

Nimbhara.

30. The remissions made in the Nimbhara District were imperative, unfair exactions having created great discontent.

The Ex-Nawab's Government.

31. The Ex-Nawab in his memorial, I observe, expatiates on the beneficence of his late rule.

Full credit should be conceded to Mahomed Ally Khan of having been heartily desirous to improve his country, and he evinced an energy in visiting his outlying pergunnahs which might be followed with advantage by other Princes in Rajpootana, and without which Tonk, having her territories so widely scattered, can never be supervised; but the Ex-Nawab was narrow-minded in his religious views and miserly avaricious, two foibles which entirely counterbalanced any advantages his personal attention might otherwise have afforded.

32. Improvements when instituted were, in consequence of that love of money, effected at the expense of the people; and his large body of Hindoo subjects were discontented and dejected at the religious intolerance exercised towards them. It will hardly be believed that to this day they are not permitted to whitewash or repair their temples!

Financial statement.

33. Taking into consideration the extraordinary nature of the year, the results shown in Captain Blair's Budget Estimate for 1868-69 are satisfactory.

It is excessively unfortunate that, during the temporary nature of our present relations with Tonk, famine should have so seriously afflicted the land, the effects of which, moreover, will be felt whilst those relations are likely to continue. Under the circumstances, bearing in mind the large remittances made to Benares and other unavoidable expenditure, it is creditable to find any surplus at all.

Captain J. Blair.

31. I would here again record my high appreciation of the services of Captain J. Blair, and I am of opinion the Tonk State is fortunate in having attached to it a zealous and energetic officer, whose aim and object is to advance the interests of his charge at any sacrifice of time and labour.

The Nawab.

33. In closing my remarks on the Assistant Agent's Report, I would, whilst endorsing his opinion as to the improvement effected in the young Nawab, observe that in December next two years will have elapsed since his father's deposition; and as I do not consider it would be desirable, under the circumstances of His Highness's age and position, to withhold power from him beyond that period, I purpose submitting a recommendation that he be invested in January 1870. I regret to record the death of the son and heir born to the Nawab in November last.

BOONDEE.

Difficulties of dealing with Boondce.

36. Official association with a State like Boondce under present circumstances may be beneficial as a trial of patience, but there is little else encouraging about it. It is an axiom, however, that temper is one of the first qualifications a Political Officer should possess: all I would say is, I can conscientiously commend any gentleman wishing to test the nature of this quality in himself to get attached to this Durbar.

37. Improvement by persuasive means is simply out of the question. Every suggestion meets with a quiet but firm opposition far more difficult to overcome than any active resistance would be; and utter stagnation is the result.

38. Boondce may not inappropriately be described as being in a fossil condition, a living representative of Native States in the last century, apathetically indifferent to the progress of time, and obstinately opposed to change.

39. To ameliorate matters presents a problem fraught with difficulty, for the anomalies are so many. Anarchy and gross misrule have their remedies; but here we have to contend against a state of affairs with which the people appear contented, but which effectually frustrates any attempt to improve the moral and material welfare of the country or its inhabitants.

40. The absence of anything like outward prosperity is strikingly apparent to every one, yet I do not think the people are oppressed in any way; indeed, judging from the absence of complaint, I should be inclined to describe them as happier than their neighbours.

Character of the present Chief.

41. The character of the present Ruler is no less a riddle, for it is composed of more qualities to be admired than deplored, whilst I cannot recollect one which could fairly be condemned, and yet the stagnation which exists may be attributed entirely to that character.

42. The late Major Burton, in speaking of His Highness in 1850, writes thus:—

“Of an attenuated frame, he displays an elegant exterior and engaging manners, with a naturally quick intellect and perception improved by travel; his conversational powers are excellent, revealing, by his observations on ethics, political economy, and theological matters, a mind stored with sound sense and moral principle. His chief defect is excessive pride, which exhibits itself, not in private conference, when the affability of his behaviour cannot be exceeded, but rather in preliminary trivialities and formal audiences. No man, considering his education, is less under the dominion of priestcraft and superstition than Ram Singh of Boondee. Though a patron of priest and an orthodox Hindoo, his rule is popular; he is respected by his subjects for the strict integrity he evinces in all his actions, and the example of forbearance and equanimity of temper he sets to his courtiers; and he is esteemed by his officers and domestics for the impartiality he pursues in the disposal of his patronage, and for the freedom they enjoy from arbitrary exactions under a discriminating and just master.”

43. This is a fine character, and if it be not inconsistent to concur generally with Major Burton in one breath, and to assert the entire absence of anything like government in another, I willingly endorse that officer's opinion in the main. There is, however, one important defect in the Chief's character, which, being constitutional, I am surprised the Political Agent should have overlooked. The Rao Raja is suspicious to a degree. He was suspicious of his own son; he is suspicious of his own ministers, and he is suspicious of the British Government. The consequences are most destructive. His Highness trusts nobody, and there is most needless and a vexatious delay in matters of daily occurrence.

44. At a conference His Highness will discuss matters pleasantly enough, and the Political Officer will, as frequent personal experiences enable me to testify, congratulate himself that oral communication will succeed when correspondence invariably fails; but this sanguine anticipation is too soon dispelled, for the Chief invariably meets the most elaborate advocacy by the unanswerable argument, that he is very well contented with the present; why should he change? If the suggestion be on our part one of general improvement, the stereotyped reply, after a few reminders, may be safely counted on. The proposition is highly approved, but won't suit Boondee!

45. It is, I fear, beyond my powers to describe a condition of affairs so paradoxical and unsatisfactory, and at the same time be intelligible.

What I mean to infer is that, whilst our relations with Boondee are carried on with tedious difficulty, and whilst our efforts to improve the State are passively but firmly opposed, we are compelled to witness utter stagnation without being in a position to lend a helping hand.

46. It is with sincere regret I have to chronicle in this memoir an event of very sad interest to the history of this Chiefship.

Death of the heir apparent.

On the 2nd November 1868 occurred the demise of Bheem Singh, the only legitimate son of the Maharao Raja.

47. This bereavement has been a heavy one to the Chief. His Highness, in the decline of life, has not only to sorrow for a deep family affliction, but to mourn an heir endowed with qualities which but too seldom belong to the Rajpoot Princes; whilst the Nobles and people of Boondce will long deplore an event which has taken from them one who, in the fulness of time, would have been their Ruler, and who had given promise of exercising his power with a due regard for their welfare.

Boondce debt to Agency Treasurer.

48. No little difficulty is experienced in getting this Durbar to liquidate money due to the Agency Treasurer on account of compensatory awards made by the Harraotee Court and paid upon our security.

This does not arise from any desire on the part of the Maharao Raja to evade what he considers his just liabilities, for with many faults my memory fails to recall a single instance impugning His Highness' rectitude in pecuniary matters; but the difficulty has arisen from a feeling of dissatisfaction at a decision given against him in one very important case.

49. The State in all owes some Rupees 70,000 for compensation.

Of this, mere Rupees 40,000 were decreed in one award, during my predecessor's time (four years ago), as indemnity for the Sooree robbery, which occurred in Boondce territory. The decree was appealed against by the Durbar, and the decision of the Lower Court upheld by the late Agent of the Governor General; but His Highness has never ceased to urge the injustice of the finding, and invariably demurs when called upon to pay.

50. The penalty on this occasion was undoubtedly a heavy one on an impoverished State like Boondce, and the robbery was of a nature which the best Police arrangements would fail to prevent; it is not surprising, therefore, the Durbar should have felt the severity of the finding. But with the rules laid down for its guidance, the Court could, in justice to the plaintiffs, award no other.

51. It has constantly been explained to His Highness, both by this Office and by the Governor General's Agent, that the decision arrived at could not be reversed, and he has now been informed that, unless he choose to accept certain arrangements suggested to him of liquidating the debt with interest by instalments, other means for recovering the money will have to be adopted.

The danger of delay in paying compensation.

52. The Boondce State by no means stands alone as regards procrastination in paying up awards of the International Courts. The subject is of serious importance, and calls for early remedial measures, for our exertions to suppress crime are checkmated by delay.

53. The main object of making a State compensate for robberies committed within her limits is defeated when the Chief is allowed to take his own time to pay the award.

54. It is true that the plaintiff is no loser, inasmuch as, after the lapse of two months, the money is paid him through the Agency Treasurer and the State charged 12 per cent. interest, so that justice so far does not halt, and it might be inferred the matter of interest would induce early payment; but this inference is a delusive one. The burden of interest is not felt to be irksome at first, and few Native Rulers look far into the future; consequently, our aim, that pecuniary responsibility should induce proper suppressive arrangements, is entirely frustrated by delay.

KOTA II.

Improvement in financial condition.

55. Though it is not permitted me to dwell on any conspicuous change for the better in many matters connected with the administration of this State, it is gratifying to be able to record that, since the accession to power of the present Maharao, a steady improvement in the financial condition of the country has been marked, and thus a good beginning made by the recognition of one of the cardinal features of good government—the reconciliation of expenditure to income.

The late Maharao.

56. The late Maharao died in 1866. At that time disbursements exceeded receipts by nearly 4 lakhs of rupees; promises for the liquidation of debts were seldom fulfilled, and the bankers had lost all confidence in the Durbar.

The present Chief.

57. During the official year 1866-67 the present Chief diminished expenditure upwards of 3½ lakhs, and in 1867-68 a further outlay of Rupees 76,000 was cut down, which, added to the lapses of a jagheer by the demise of one of the Queens, produced a cash balance of some Rupees 37,000.

Further reductions.

58. It affords me much pleasure, therefore, to state that, whilst the instalments set aside for the liquidation of debt have been paid, the following reductions have again been reported during the year under review:—

1. Reduction in Army	...	...	Rs. 12,000
2. Khas Kotar, kitchens, &c.	...	...	" 15,000
3. Interest on debt	...	...	" 10,000
4. Toshakana	...	...	" 5,000
5. Elephant stable	...	...	" 5,000
6. Zenana	...	...	" 4,000
7. Maintenance of forts	...	...	" 2,000
8. Miscellaneous	...	...	" 3,000
Total, Rs.			56,000

and His Highness, who entered upon his duties under many exceptional disadvantages, is much to be commended in this matter.

The adoption by Kotah of free grain trade principles.

59. The acknowledgments of the Government have already been conveyed to the Maharao for the liberality with which, in opposition to his own convictions, he consented to open out the grain trade, and they were well deserved, for the policy in his case is not an empty concession. Kotah is the granary of this part of India; there are few States more wedded to ancient custom; and from time immemorial it has been their custom to limit exportation. To stand up first, then, as Kotah did at the Ajmere Conference, and proclaim a readiness to abide by principles of free trade in a time of inevitable want and dearth, when to the Chief's mind he had all to lose and nothing to gain, was a most laudable act of philanthropy, which reflects creditably on His Highness.

60. At first complaints were constant that the concession was not being carried out by the Kotah people, and when at the capital I explained to the Maharao it would be necessary to issue further orders, His Highness, at a public Darbar, in my presence, assembled all the chief bankers and traders of the place, when a Proclamation, the purport of which I attach (marked A.), was read to them, and copies circulated throughout the district.

61. I have submitted this enclosure to show that the Maharao is anxious to carry out the new policy, and further, because the grain question has for so many years given trouble to this Office, that any measure calculated to effect a satisfactory solution of it demands more than casual notice here.

Since the publication of this Proclamation I have received very few complaints.

62. It would be unreasonable to expect a reform of this kind, one so utterly at variance with what has hitherto prevailed, to be entirely successful in its infancy, to say nothing of its introduction in a year of famine, when exportation is viewed with exceptional jealousy.

Feeling between Darbar and Kotree Chieftains.

63. In my Report on Kotah for 1865-66 I mentioned that between the Darbar and the Kotree Chieftains a feeling had long existed which was less amicable than could be desired; but that the settlement of certain pecuniary questions, which I had been enabled successfully to accomplish, would tend to lessen animosity. I am happy to add that it did so.

64. Unfortunately, when relations were first entered into between Kotah and the seven houses alluded to, those relations were never properly defined, and the consequence has been constant bickerings with most of them—the one expecting too much homage, the other conceding too little.

We have, however, sufficient on record to know that the knot which binds them was voluntarily tied in the first instance, and that Kotah is hardly empowered to exercise, in their integrity, sovereign powers over them.

Relations between Kotah and Indurghur.

65. The Maharaja of Indurghur ranks first amongst these Chiefs, and I entertain much respect for him as one quite unsophisticated and simple, but really desirous to follow good counsel.

JHALIAWAR.

Opium Cultivation.

72. Jhallawar has happily up to date been spared the miseries which have afflicted Rajpootana generally. The cultivation of opium, for which the land rents very high, is the chief source of revenue, and great loss will be experienced this year consequent upon the diminished

Desire of Chief to establish an Opium Agency at his capital.

74. The Maharaj Rana is very anxious to establish an Opium Agency at Jhalra Patan to enable the drug to be weighed and packed there; and the desire is a very natural one, for the quantity passing through is said to be little short of 7,000 chests, and the loss of revenue to the State from opium taken to Indore, which would be brought to Patan were scales established there, is put down at upwards of Rupees 20,000.

75. The proposition is now under submission, and it will, I trust, be approved, for a State may fairly claim to enjoy the advantages of its own produce, and it must be discouraging to the Maharaj Rana to watch that produce passing on to swell the coffers of the Maharaja Holkar.

His Highness is, of course, prepared to defray the cost of maintaining an Opium Agency.

Our relations with Jhallawar.

76. Our relations with the Raj Rana continue to be carried on in a most friendly spirit.

It may, I venture to think, be entered as certain that by a Native Chieftain's sentiments towards the Paramount Power can one with safety gauge those of his people, and in precise accordance with the well-known feelings of their master will their own conduct be shaped.

If, then, British officers are treated with marked civility in Independent Native territory, there can be to my mind no more satisfactory indication of the loyalty of its Ruler; and the respect evinced in Jhallawar and the hospitality and kindness of the Chief towards English sportsmen and travellers invariably elicit high commendation, and is the more estimably conspicuous by comparison with neighbouring Chiefships.

77. Although dependent upon his own exertions for procuring food by importation, the Maharaj Rana has more than once, during these hard times, earned my acknowledgments by aiding this station with supplies from his own store.

Improvement in Civil and Criminal Administration.

78. His Highness is, I am happy to say, taking practical steps to improve the internal administration of his country by assimilating to

ours his Criminal and Civil Law, with such modifications as the condition of society demands.

The Code of Criminal Procedure has already been published, and that for the adjudication of Civil suits is now in the Press.

Debts.

79. His Highness is also giving serious attention to the liquidation of the State liabilities, and is desirous of consolidating his debt and paying it within a fixed period.

Although of an extravagant disposition, I think he will carry out this good resolution, and the strength of purpose he displayed in rescuing his country from serious pecuniary embarrassment and other difficulties on his accession to power justify that hope.

The Fortress of Gagrone.

80. A very sore point with this Durbar is the extreme proximity of the Kotah Fortress of Gagrone, which is plainly discernible within three short miles of the cantonment of Jhallawar and the residence of the Maharaj Rana.

81. It is, I conceive, a matter for very great regret that when the partition of Kotah took place, and one-third of the territory was made over, that this stronghold, which almost menaces the Jhallawar Palace, should not have been made over to that State, instead of the Fortress of Shahabad, which is far from the capital and separated entirely by Kotah territory, whilst, on the other hand, Shahabad is conveniently situated on the Gwalior border within Kotah limits.

82. The objection to Gagrone being held by another State lies not only in perpetuating a sore, but it greatly weakens good government in Jhallawar. Civil offenders especially can so easily effect an escape across a border so adjacent, that they frequently do so, and thus evade justice with impunity, for there is no redress.

It may be said that this argument is applicable to all, for the borders of all interlace; but this is not a general case, for it will be found that the capitals of most States are more centrally situated, and the same facilities for escape do not exist.

83. The Jhallawar Chief is most anxious to effect an exchange, and would willingly sacrifice some revenue to do so; but although I shall, for every reason, do my best to advise Kotah of the wisdom of such a course, I have no hope of success. The feeling of jealousy against Jhallawar is as strong as ever. Gagrone, save for the beauty of its situation and as a splendid shooting preserve, is of little moment to Kotah one way or the other; but the aggravating nature of its position to Jhallawar enhances its value beyond price I fear.

Establishment of Printing Press.

84. The Maharaj Rana has established a Printing Press at the capital, and though not yet in working order, it has already proved very useful in economising labour: the publication of a vernacular newspaper is contemplated.

The Maharaj Rana's family.

85. His Highness's daughter is married to the Maharaja of Ulwar, and the recent birth to that Prince of a son and heir has been subject for great rejoicing to Jhallawar.

Education.

86. I am glad to report the Maharao of Kotah has sanctioned an expenditure of Rupees 400 per mensem for the establishment of a good school at his capital. Arrangements are in progress for securing the services of good teachers, and I trust soon to be in a position to add that the wants of a large city, hitherto much neglected in the matter of education, have, in a measure, been supplied by this institution.

87. The Maharaja of Indurgur has also established a school during the year for instruction in English, Hindoo, and Persian, and it promises to be successful.

88. The Maharaj Rana of Jhallawar has not hitherto done justice to this important subject, but, in reply to a communication from me calling attention to the matter, His Highness writes:—"Rest assured I will shortly make better and proper arrangements for establishing schools at the city of Patun and throughout my country," a resolution which, I trust, may soon be accomplished.

89. The success of the school recently opened at Tonk is described by Captain Blair, and the small school I established in the Civil Station of Deolee is progressing satisfactorily.

Post Office.

90. The postal lines within the limits of the Harraotee Agency aggregately amount to nearly 200 miles, and it gives me pleasure to record that, during a period of considerable danger, the parcel and letter-bags have passed with perfect safety, and no instance of mail robbery has occurred.

91. The late order obliging bhanga daks to travel by day only is a most judicious one, and it will, I think, wonderfully diminish crime.

92. In paragraph 167 of my Report for 1865-66 I alluded to the inconvenience experienced from the paucity of runners sanctioned for the line, which necessitated the same man taking both parcels and letters. This has now been rectified, and an additional runner allowed for each station.

Consequent upon dearness of provisions, the pay of each runner has temporarily been raised from Rupees 5 to 6 per mensem.

New Post Office for Jhalra Patun.

93. Application has been made to open a new Post Office at the so-called *Chaunce* of Jhalra Patun, whereat the Maharaj Rana and his Court reside, and I regard it as a great necessity.

94. The *Chaunce* is distant from Patun nearly four miles. From a small cantonment it is fast springing into a large town, and the

inconvenience to the Durbar and to the people of having to send their letters so far is a serious one, which, moreover, injuriously affects the postal revenues. A letter-box, it is true, has been put up at the *Chaunce*; but the arrangement has not met with favour; and I hope soon to see a branch Post Office there with a suitable establishment.

Transit of mails.

95. It being generally acknowledged that the public have a right to their letters being carried as expeditiously as is practicable, I would here bring to notice that there is nothing whatever to prevent the mails being carried in this neighbourhood by horsemen instead of footmen. The advantages would be manifold, for the arrangement would not only accelerate communication, but reduce to a minimum attacks on the mail.

96. It might be tried as an initiatory measure between Jeypore and Deolee. To the former place, from Agra, the mail-cart runs; and as the whole of our correspondence with Bombay and Europe now passes this way, the boon would be a great one.

97. So soon, however, as metalled communications shall link Jeypore to Nusseerabad and Nusseerabad to Deolee, this last, though a longer, will be a quicker route than that *via* Tonk, and the arrangements might be changed accordingly.

98. At present there is no question, the Bamsee Daks in this part of India carry a large portion of the correspondence of the country. I would promise statistics in this matter, did I not know they are so jealous of enquiry, that the information furnished would not be reliable. This much, however, we know, that a large quantity of letters is carried by these daks, and that the advantage of them will continue to be lost to the Imperial Revenue until our time in transition is much shorter than theirs, when the matter will rectify itself.

99. Ere leaving this important subject, I would urge the advantage of carrying the mails from the Burr Pass in Marwar to the foot of Mount Aboo in carts. I take it for granted this will be done so soon as the road now under survey is finished, but there is no obstacle to prevent the change taking place at once. I have driven from end to end, and found it for the most part not only practicable, but a good fair-weather-eight-mile-an-hour road.

I trust this suggestion may not be considered out of place in my Report. Correspondence between Rajpootana generally and the Head-quarter Agency passes this way, and the question, therefore, is one of general interest.

Dispensaries.

100. The dispensaries in Haraootee have worked successfully during the year.

The Deolee Institution has hitherto been under great disadvantages for want of suitable accommodation. With the aid of famine subscriptions and a Government grant we have now built one which will compare well with any I have seen in Rajpootana.

Year.

AMOUNT OF BLOOD-MONEY AWARDED,
AND AGAINST WHAT STATE.

District.	Boondies.	Kotah.	Tonk.	Jhallawar.	Total amount paid.	Average duration of Cases.	Average detention of witnesses.	No. of cases disposed of, 1868-69.	No. of cases on file at close of 1868-69.
		<i>Rs. a. p.</i>			<i>Rs. a. p.</i>				
...		700 0 0	...	...	700 0 0	34 $\frac{1}{2}$ days	21 $\frac{5}{8}$ days	104	11

The average duration of cases and detention of witnesses show a marked improvement upon previous Returns.

The Meena Districts.

106. At a time when strong temptation has existed for the commission of crime,—when the people have been pinched by want, and have little or no honest occupation to save them from the evils which idleness begets,—there is real satisfaction in being able to record that no serious outrage has occurred within the limits of the Meena districts surrounding Deolee, which but a few years since were the terror of the neighbourhood; and the fact speaks eloquently in favour of the measures in force for the civilization of a tribe so lawless.

107. I may, perhaps, be pardoned for recording an extract of a letter to my address from Colonel MacDonald, who raised and commands the Deolee Irregular Force, and who has lived amongst the Meenas for nearly twelve years. In writing to me on the eve of his departure for England, Colonel MacDonald is good enough to say:—

“It is not out of place, I feel, if I bear testimony to the success of your Administration in the Kerar, for I am much interested in the Meena and other tribes of that district: at present the pressure of famine is on them, and to me it is a wonder that they do not return to their old ways; yet, as far as I know, there have been no gang-robberies for months, and the daks now pass through the district carrying articles of great value without any real protection save the respect to order which you have established.”

108. The most anxious time, however, is yet before us, and every precaution will be necessary for the protection of life and property.

Increased vigilance has been enjoined upon all the District Authorities, and, with the assistance of Captain Clay, Officiating Commandant, Deolee Irregular Force, a cordon of Sepoy Spies has been established, which it is hoped will prove useful in suppressing crime and apprehending offenders; and I trust we may thereby have further reason for congratulating ourselves on having enlisted Meenas into our ranks.

Increase of pay to Infantry Deolee Irregular Force.

109. I spoke last year of the difficulty lately experienced in inducing this tribe to take service, but that difficulty no longer exists. In July 1868 the pay of the Infantry was assimilated to that enjoyed by the Regular Army, viz., Rupees 7 per mensem, and since then I am told the number of applicants for each vacancy is embarrassing: this I attribute partly to the famine, but the extra rupee has been a powerful additional inducement.

HARRAQTEE, }
The 19th May 1869. }

(Sd.) A. N. BRUCE, Capt.,
Poltl. Agent.

Enclosure A.

KOTAH GRAIN PROCLAMATION, DATED 8TH FEBRUARY 1869.

*Be it known to all Seths, Soucars, Bunnyahs, and Grain-dealers of the
Kotah State:*

I.—Whereas, at a Conference held at Ajmere in December last, it was determined that the grain trade throughout Rajpootana should

be declared open, and all prohibitions, save a fixed *hasil* to be exacted once in each State, removed; it is now understood that difficulties continue to exist in the way of purchasers, consequent, it is said, upon sellers dreading displeasure and annoyance from this Durbar.

II.—It is now made known to you as publicly as possible that His Highness the Maharao having, by the advice of the British Government, accepted principles of free trade, desires that they should be carried out.

III.—That there is no prohibition whatever on the part of His Highness to the sale, purchase, import, or export of grain, and permission is hereby openly accorded you to carry on your grain transactions freely and without apprehension.

IV.—The officials of the State are hereby warned to abstain from interference of any kind, secret or open, and any servant of the Raja who brings discredit on this Durbar by disobeying these injunctions will be severely punished.

V.—A copy of this Proclamation will be furnished to each District Officer for general information throughout the State.

VI.—Nothing will be exacted by the Durbar beyond the fixed *hasil* of $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas per maund, irrespective of *Bhoom* and *Chowkeedary*, as duty, and grain-dealers are cautioned against trying to avoid this tax by any attempt to smuggle grain.

TONK REPORT,—1868-69.

No. 78, dated 5th May 1869.

From—CAPT. J. BLAIR, Asst. Agent, Governor General, Tonk.
To—CAPTAIN A. N. BRUCE, Political Agent, Harraotee.

I HAVE the honor to submit a Report on the administration of the Tonk State for the year 1868-69.

Prospects during June and July.

The year has been rendered unhappily memorable by one of the most dire famines which has befallen this part of India within the memory of man. Early in June last copious showers of rain fell throughout the district, and sowing commenced; but dry hot weather returned, and lasted till the middle of July. Serious apprehensions began to be entertained for the khureef. As is customary when such calamities impend, the Nawab, accompanied by all his relations and the entire Mahomedan population of the city, high and low, rich and poor, proceeded on foot for three successive days to a plain without the town, and there, with outstretched arms, supplicated the blessing of rain. The monsoon set in heavily about the 14th of July, and for the time quieted all fears; the crops came well forward, and an average harvest was anticipated.

Absence of all rain in August.

2. But with July the rains virtually ceased. During August cool westerly winds and light clouds prevailed. As September commenced it became decidedly hotter. Banks of clouds rolled up from time to time; night after night it seemed as if the already half-scorched crops would be saved by an ample down-pour, but as the mornings dawned a clear sky drove despair into the hearts of the poor. Again prayerful processions of the "Faithful" were to be seen issuing day by day from the city; whilst Hindoo ascetics threatened to sacrifice their lives to propitiate the anger of their deities. The price of cereals, which until the middle of August had continued tolerably firm, began to rise with rapidity; the quantity exposed for sale daily decreased; bamboos seeded;* and Bunnyas, with eyes greedy for gold, eagerly anticipated and foretold that within a few months grain would be selling in *pooreast* (paper covers in which groceries are retailed) and at 5 seers for the rupee. By the 20th of September the price of jowar and barley, the staple food of the poor, had risen to 12½ seers for the rupee, or 100 to 150 per cent. above its ordinary standard price. A foolish attempt was made to prevent a further rise, and, of course, quickly failed. Grain began to be withheld from the market; the demand exceeded the supply; and this circumstance tended yet further to

* There is a superstition in these parts that the bamboo only seeds when there is a famine.
† I was gravely asked to punish a Bunnya for making such a statement.

aggravate the evil, for people naturally asked themselves what might be expected a little later in the season, since so great a dearth of cereals had already become apparent? All, therefore, who had the means strove to lay in a supply of food; grain-shops were besieged by crowds, scrambling, pushing, and quarrelling to get served first; the weak and infirm went to the wall, and with difficulty could obtain enough grain for their daily wants.

Popular feeling against grain-holders.

3. Popular feeling, too, ran high against all grain-holders. "They have laid in their supplies at 30 and 35 seers to the rupee," it was said, "and now they are selling at more than 100 per cent. profit, and are not satisfied with that." The stocks of cereals in the town were set down at the most extravagant figures. The Post-master of Tonk, an intelligent person, who had taken some trouble to collect the information, brought me a list of pits, containing, it was stated, 400,000 mannds; one-twentieth of that amount was above the truth. In passing through the streets I was perpetually assailed with loud cries from the poor and lower classes to reduce prices.

Weather during end of September.

4. Towards the end of September the kharif crop, except where the means of irrigation existed, was irretrievably ruined. Anxiety now painfully centred on the probability of rain falling in time to admit of the rabi being sown. The month closed with great heat, and the wind became sufficiently hot and dry for some days to work tattles and thermantidotes. A hurricane burst over the district on the 4th of October: whilst it lasted, the rain was heavy and soaking; but the violence of the gale carried away the storm before the fall had been sufficient. This was the last shower we had in Tonk. The rabi remained unsown on all unirrigated land, and it became clear that a great famine was on us.

Measures taken to import grain.

5. By the end of September it was apparent that the stock of grain at Tonk and in the district was very low. Merchants, too, showed extraordinary backwardness in meeting the crisis by large importations, which were absolutely necessary to prevent starvation. Their action was checked by fear that grain convoys would be plundered in transit, and also from a dread that arbitrary rates might be fixed (a system finding favour with all Native Governments), causing them a loss on their ventures. Agents were, therefore, despatched to the surrounding Jeypore Districts, with instructions to purchase freely on behalf of the State. Every assurance and encouragement was given to merchants to import, and guards were promised, should it be found that they were necessary. Import duty on cereals had been previously remitted; and on the 3rd of October a completely free grain trade was proclaimed.

6. The Agents despatched to the Jeypore Districts quickly returned, having only succeeded in purchasing some Rupees 12,000 worth of cereals. They found that, in spite of the Maharaja's liberal measures, free trade in grain, with a famine impending, was so opposed to the

understanding of local officials and of the people, that grain-holders were afraid to sell. Under the circumstances, since the territories of Gwalior, Kotah, Boondee, and Ulwur were all sealed, the markets of the North-Western Provinces were only left to us. Our Agents were accordingly sent to Agra and Perozepore Jhirka, with instructions to purchase and forward grain without delay, because it was feared that the great scarcity of fodder in Rajpootana would effectually, within a few months, close the road, except to camel carriage. Altogether 29,900 maunds of grain were purchased, at a cost of Rupees 82,000, to which must be added Rupees 58,000 for transit and other charges. It had been at first determined to purchase more than double this quantity, but it was found that merchants, so far from being discouraged by the State importing, accepted it as a guarantee that the import of grain was not likely to be attended with loss, and had redoubled their own exertions, rendering it practicable and desirable for the State to withdraw from further action. The total amount of Government and private grain imported has amounted to 158,385 maunds, of which 21,966 maunds have been subsequently exported. For the most part the grain was unescorted, and although thefts of grain were not infrequent, as might, indeed, be expected, not one convoy was plundered. For this immunity from violence in such a season we are much indebted to His Highness of Jeypore, through whose territories the road chiefly passes. Had one case of pillage occurred, the importation of grain would have been at once checked by thousands of mamids.

Bad faith of Agra merchants.

7. I may be also here permitted to allude to the bad faith of the Agra merchants. Their market was crowded with purchasers, and they were driving a splendid trade; yet, not content with honest profits, they have made themselves notorious throughout Rajpootana for the shameless manner in which they repudiated their engagements. By native custom the acceptance of earnest-money signifies that a bargain is finally concluded; but at Agra, if prices rose before the amount of grain stipulated could be weighed out, the sellers had no hesitation in declining to complete their contracts.

Commencement of distress. Institution of an alms-house.

8. By the 10th of October wheat was selling at 8 and commover grain at 10 seers for the rupee. The streets of Tonk became crowded with beggars, whose gaunt, lean forms told but too plainly that actual famine had commenced. An alms-house was accordingly organized, supported by private subscriptions, amounting to Rupees 900 per mensem. The Mahomedan gentlemen of Tonk showed a great want of liberality in their subscriptions. Any deficit of expenditure over income will be made up by the State at the close of the year. This charity has been devoted exclusively to the support of the weak, aged, and infirm, incapable of maintaining themselves. The relief afforded, viz., 6 to 8 chittacks of grain per head, is only barely sufficient to support life. The recipients are not called upon, however, to do any work for the aid granted, it being considered more expedient to permit them to supplement their rations of grain with any small earnings they may make.

Operations of alms-house.

9. The operations of this charity will cease by the end of June, by which date Rupees 10,000 to 11,000 will have been spent. The number which have received relief has been as follows:—

		Daily average of persons relieved.	Total relieved.	
During October	...	310	...	5,580
" November	...	470	...	14,100
" December	...	470	...	14,570
" January	...	470	...	14,570
" February	...	588	...	16,464
" March	...	780	...	24,490
" April	...	733	...	21,990
" May }	Estimate {	800	...	24,800
" June }	Estimate {	800	...	24,800

Numbers are daily increasing by influx of infirm and helpless from the Jeypore Districts.

Relief of destitute strangers.

10. For the assistance of destitute strangers and casual poor, Rupees 4,500 has been allotted by the State; a daily distribution of cooked food is made, and hundreds are thus saved from starvation.

Period of highest prices.

11. Prices attained their highest, *i. e.*, $7\frac{1}{4}$ seers of wheat and 8 of other grains, during the first week of December, and then gradually fell as the influx of imported cereals increased. The new year set in with wheat at 8 and other grains at $9\frac{1}{4}$ seers for the rupee. The radius of the famine, however, continued to extend; numbers of the labouring poor, who had managed to exist on "Bair" berries, and by collecting and selling the "Bair" leaves for fodder, began to find these means of subsistence departing. Fortunately, at this juncture, we were able, consequent

on the sanction accorded by Government to a loan of one lakh of rupees applied for in December, to commence relief works in this and the Rampora District. A small ration of grain* was only allowed, but more applicants crowded to the works than could at once be satisfactorily utilised. By the end of January 1,795 persons were daily employed. In February the number was about 2,500 per diem. As March advanced, common grain could be purchased at $10\frac{3}{4}$ seers for the rupee, and the harvest gave some employment. The relief works were reduced to about 1,400 per diem; a limit was necessarily placed on numbers; otherwise thousands of labourers from the surrounding States would have hurried to Tonk.

Tuccavee advances.

12. In addition to relief works undertaken directly by the State, Tuccavee advances, for the digging of wells and tanks, have been freely made, and these works, which are now under construction, have afforded employment to the village poor.

* Three-fourths of a seer per man; half a seer per woman; four-sixteenths to six-sixteenths of a seer to a boy or girl.

Small out-turn of the rubber crops.

13. The out-turn of the rubber crops has proved considerably less than was generally anticipated. Prices, therefore, which were expected to fall, have risen. Barley, which was selling a fortnight ago at 11 seers for the rupee, is now at 9½ seers. Our relief works are being expanded as necessity seems to require. Probably 3,000 will be employed daily during May and June.

15. Only two pergunnahs of this State, viz., Tonk and Rampora, have fallen within the true famine circle. The other four have all more or less suffered from the scanty rain-fall of the last monsoon; but in none has there been any considerable distress.

Losses by famine

16. It may not be uninteresting to note the losses which have been sustained in agricultural produce and in cattle in the Tonk and Rampora Districts, for although their area forms but a fraction of the famine tract, still the statistics I am able to supply may not be obtainable elsewhere, and may therefore be of some small value as illustrative of the gravity of the calamity in Central Rajpootana generally.

Losses in agricultural produce.

17. Tonk and Rampora contain an area of about 640 square miles, with a population of 131,000 souls. In the year 1867-68 the total estimated out-turn of cereals amounted to 618,500 maunds, the value of which, at the rates then obtaining, may be set down at Rupees 12,97,000. The gross produce during the current year is estimated at 155,000 maunds, worth, according to present prices, Rupees 6,75,000. The decrease in produce then amounts to 493,500 maunds, worth, at ordinary rates, Rupees 9,87,000. Of course so large a sum has not found its way wholly out of the people's hoarded savings, but has been in a large measure met by economy in consumption. One chittack per diem on a population of 131,000 souls for ten months represents 61,250 maunds. I take it that the average reductions in consumption per head must be about 2½ chittacks per diem, or say 150,000 maunds, during the famine, representing a value of Rupees 6,00,000. A further saving in the

amount of grain consumed by cattle has to be taken into account. This might be set down at Rupees 1,00,000 at least.

Losses to cattle.

18. Of cattle, only 30 per cent. will, it is calculated, be saved; the scarcity of fodder has been unprecedented; grass sells at about the same price as grain, *i. e.*, 10 seers for the rupee. Horned cattle have been, and are still, dying in enormous numbers. To satisfy myself that the percentage of loss in cattle was tolerably correct, I caused an enumeration to be made, a few days ago, in 32 villages in the neighbourhood of Tonk with this result:—

Number of cattle last June	...	...	12,711
Number that have died	...	...	7,276
Number of which there is no hope that they will survive—July	...	...	1,322
			<hr/> 2,598
Balance	...	...	<hr/>4,113

The villagers put down 1,322 as certain to die, and expressed great doubts about being able to save more than 2,500. In the Tonk and Rampora Districts there were last June 100,430 head of cattle; 70,292 may be estimated as the probable loss, which, at a modest computation of Rupees 10 per head, are worth Rupees 7,02,920. Adding this sum, then, which represents the value of material wealth destroyed, to the sum which represents the value of the decreased produce, we find that the famine has lost to these two small districts Rupees 16,89,920.

Influence of famine on price of copper.

19. The influence of the famine on the price of copper coin is worthy of note. Sixty-one to sixty-two native pice now run to the Imperial Rupee, whereas, in ordinary times, the number varies from about 48 to 54 pice. This may be attributed to the circumstance that the present pressure on the hulk of the people has not only checked the purchase of copper vessels, but has thrown a large number of old utensils into the market, lowering the price of copper very materially.

Past famines.

20. This part of India has suffered during the past century from three severe famines, which occurred in 1783-84 A. D., 1813 A. D., and 1837-38 A. D. The years 1756, 1761, 1821, and 1834-40 were also seasons of scarcity, and high prices, and distress. There is a "Sethi" still alive at Tonk, who was ten years old in 1783 A. D., and who has witnessed the three great famines above mentioned. He relates that in 1783 A. D. the crops failed for want of rain, and local difficulties were aggravated by a great influx of fugitives from Hurriannah; that prices rose to 13 seers of wheat and 15 of barley to the rupee, but that severe distress only lasted two months, and that the succeeding khureef crop was so abundant, that grain sold at upwards of 2 maunds for the rupee.

Famine of 1813 A. D.

21. The famine of 1813 A. D. is remembered by many persons besides the living eye-witnesses of 1783 A. D., and is spoken of as having caused immense distress. A partial failure in the rains of two successive years, added to the frightful devastation caused by numerous armies and bands of Pindaries which were then devouring Rajpootana, caused the price of wheat to rise to 54 seers and barley to 6 seers for the rupee, at about which they stood for 2 months until the rubbee harvest, after which 25 seers of grain could be obtained. But it is said that fodder was sufficiently abundant, and that ghee was selling at 3 seers for the rupee, milk being proportionally cheap.

Famine of 1837-38.

22. Tonk did not escape the famine of 1837-38, which so cruelly devastated the North-Western Provinces. The price of wheat rose to 11 seers and barley to 13 seers for the rupee. Distress was general and severe, but forage was not very scarce, and the loss in cattle was not, therefore, excessive.

Famine of 1860-61.

23. The famine of 1860-61 did not extend so far as these districts. Prices were certainly affected by the state of the markets in Upper India, but nevertheless grain remained comparatively cheap, its export having been interdicted.

Comparison of famines.

24. On the whole, then, there seems no reason to question the correctness of the concurrent testimony of all natives I have conversed with, that the present famine, both in its duration and intensity, fully equals that of 1813 A. D., and far exceeds all others within the memory of man. The rates of grain rose considerably higher in 1813 A. D. than they have done this year; on the other hand, milk and ghee are selling at triple the prices which obtained in 1813 A. D., and the losses in cattle have been far greater.

Administration.

25. The administration of the State is conducted in the manner described in my last year's Report.

Retirement of Mahomed Zour Ali.

26. Mahomed Zour Ali, a member of the Regency Council and head of the Civil Courts, retired from office last December owing to infirmity and ill-health, and has been succeeded by Sahibzadeh Mahmood Khan, a grandson of Nawab Wuzer-ood-dowla by his eldest son. I may remark *en passant* that, had the law of primogeniture obtained in this State, Mahmood Khan would have succeeded to the Chiefship on his grandfather's death in June 1864.

Regency Council.

27. The Regency Council in its consultative capacity, and the various members in their executive charges, have, on the whole, worked satisfactorily. It is not to be expected that native gentlemen of

independent means, closely related to the Tonk house, will devote their time and energy so entirely to their duties as servants dependent on their salaries; but the advantage of associating the leading men in the State with its Government far more than counterbalances this evil.

Sahebzadeh Ibadullah Khan.

28. The position of Sahebzadeh Ibadullah Khan, the head of the Council and of the Administration generally, has been one of very considerable difficulty. The young Nawab, it must be remembered, is of full age, and inherits the passion of all natives for power and authority. His absolutely neglected education; his inability to write even his own name, or to read save the plainest of documents; his utter ignorance of all figures, much less of the rudiments of arithmetic; in short, the want of all knowledge in one and every subject, except the *Koran*, had rendered a Regency imperative, but did not moderate, nay, rather increased, an inclination, prompted and fed by the parasites which invariably surround Native Chiefs, to interfere with public affairs in an injurious manner. Till his father's deposition the Nawab had been virtually locked up in the *zenana*; he was little known or heard of; and under such circumstances, with no education to steady him, the sudden transition to the dazzle of petty Royalty was enough to upset stronger minds. To carry out the Government, then, without giving offence to his Chief, and to check his extravagance without incurring his ill-will, required much patience, tact, and prudence on the Sahebzadeh's part.

The Nawab.

29. During the year the Nawab has made decided improvement, mental, moral, and physical. At first his studies were much neglected; nor did His Highness make any progress until Captain Bruce, Political Agent, Harraotee, deputed his Head Moonshee, Synd Bishrut Ali, as a temporary tutor. The experiment has proved most successful, for the young Chief has since paid attention to his books, which he never would have done under the tuition of the old teacher, who, as a servant of the State, was not unnaturally afraid of endangering his own bread. His Highness can now read and write, has gained some knowledge of geography and general history, and has commenced arithmetic.

30. I have made it a point, too, to associate the Nawab, as far as practicable, in the administration of the State. He is present with myself at the meetings of the Regency Council, when all important matters are discussed and decided, and his opinion invited on such questions as arise. Further, from time to time Sahebzadeh Wuzcer Mahomed Khan, head of the Criminal, and Mahmood Khan, of the Civil, Courts, wait on His Highness with some criminal cases and civil suits, which, with their aid and advice, the Nawab decides; and his capability in this duty is well spoken of.

Return of cases disposed of.

31. I do not enclose Returns of the cases and suits disposed of by the different Courts during the year. From the mode in which they are

registered, they would only mislead. As in all Native States, corruption prevails very largely, nor is it possible to eradicate this deep-seated evil without the most sweeping radical measures, entailing the dismissal of nearly every official in the State. Thorough honesty is not only unknown, but the very possibility of its existence in any one is doubted.

Postal robberies and crimes.

32. No postal robberies occurred during 1868-69, and heinous crimes have not been numerous. Thefts have been very prevalent, the result of the famine.

The Mogeas.

33. The impunity with which the Mogeas, residing in the tract of country immediately north of the Neemuch Cantonments, have for years lived by robbery and plunder, has long been a bye-word. A large number of the tribe are comparatively recent emigrants from Marwar, who, finding Nimbhara and the surrounding districts an admirable field for a life of idleness, have naturalized themselves. They are not numerous, and by no means a fine race of men, in which respect they cannot be compared with the Meenas. In fact, they more resemble the Bheel, both in stature and colour; and, although most expert thieves and famous for their gang-robberies, are deficient in daring courage.

Their means of livelihood.

34. A very small proportion engage in agricultural or industrial pursuits. They gain a livelihood by acting as chowkeydars and as guards for merchandize, largely supplemented by theft and robbery. When the crops are ripening, they come down at night, cut and carry away quantities of grain; but villages where there are Mogen chowkeydars are generally respected and spared depredation.

Facilities for robber life.

35. The natural features of the country afford facilities for a robber life; and as the Mogeas always occupy simply miserable sheds of leaves or thatch, they are never tied down to any particular locality. But the tribe principally depend on the ill-will and jealousy which exist between the officials of the Mahratta, the Rajpoot, and the Mahomedan, for the territories of Scindiah, Meywar, and Tonk, historical foes, not only meet near Nimbhara, but are so intermingled, that a few miles' run brings a fugitive from one State into asylum in another. Any mutual comity between the three jurisdictions has never existed. On the contrary, the officials of each accuse their neighbours of harbouring the Mogeas and sharing in their plunder by periodically compelling them to disgorge their gains by heavy fines. In point of fact, all have been guilty at one time or other of acting in this gross manner.

Census of the Mogeas.

36. So soon as I was appointed to this State in January 1868, I had a census taken of the Mogeas, then resident in Nimbhara; they numbered some 500 adults. On visiting the district in March last, I found the number had decreased to 200, of which 121 were employed as village

chowkeydars, the best evidence that they had received no illicit encouragement during the Regency Government. Previously an Ex-Amil, one Mouhi Mahomed Hussain, a consummate rascal and knave and a rebel official of 1857, who accompanied the Ex-Nawab in his exile, and over whom he still possesses great influence, had first winked at and then squeezed them of a very large sum of money.

37. To have turned the whole body out of the district, or to have kept them together under surveillance, would have been simple enough; but in such event they would have retaliated by having Nimbhara constantly plundered by their brethren in Meywar and Jawud Neemuch. The only other course open; not only to secure Nimbhara from being a field for their robberies, but also to prevent it being made a base from whence depredations be committed on the surrounding States, was to place a limit on the number of Mogees allowed to remain in Nimbhara, and to afford them an easy, though honest, means of subsistence.

38. This has been done. For the future only about 200 Mogee families will be permitted to reside in the district. Of these, from 30 to 40 have been entertained as guards to accompany the Government mails on a monthly pay: the remainder, including the old chowkeydars, have been retained as village watchmen. They will receive in all about 3,300 beegahs of rent-free land, and fees in cash and grain, valued at Rupees 2,570 per annum. Three of their head-men have been appointed jemadars, and will aid the Amil of the district in keeping a measure of surveillance on their comrades, for the instinet for plunder, which has become a second nature to them, might lead to broken pledges and resolutions, unless some watch were also placed on their actions.

39. In return for the benefits conferred, the Mogees engage to be responsible for all robberies which may occur; to build themselves substantial houses in their respective villages; to sink wells on the plots of land granted them; and to till the land themselves. This last condition is essential to wean them from lawlessness to habits of industry. They also bind themselves never to leave their village limits without a written pass, and to give information whenever any outside Mogees enter the district.

40. A descriptive roll of the Mogees will be kept in the Amil's Office, with particulars of residence, &c., and a copy furnished to the Political Agent in Meywar, so that it will always be in the power of that officer to ascertain whether any are absent from their villages, and whether any strange Mogees are harboured in the district.

REVENUE.

Land Revenue—Seronge.

41. In my last year's Report the depressed condition of the Seronge District, the annually progressive settlement, the poverty of the people, and their inability to bear a higher assessment, were pointed out; and I added that a proposition had been made to the Regency Council to forego the further annual increment during the four unexpired years of the current lease. The proposal was duly concurred in and given effect to; but I have little hope of the district thoroughly recovering itself

without more ample measures. A new settlement, on liberal principles, is first of all essentially necessary, and I trust the coming working season may see it inaugurated. The scanty rain-fall in the district during the past monsoon injured the crops, for which remissions of revenue have been asked for and granted.

Land Revenue—Perawa.

42. The settlement effected by the Ex-Amil of Perawa in that district in June 1867, whereby an enhancement of 10 per cent. of the Government demand was obtained, proved on enquiry to have been forced *volens volens* on the zemindars. It was on the face of it unlikely in the highest degree that the peasant proprietors would voluntarily add 10 per cent. to their rents when their leases had two years to run. The act of the Ex-Amil was cancelled, and the extra revenue thus arbitrarily obtained is being repaid.

New settlement necessary.

43. As the leases terminate next month, I proceeded to Perawa, as soon as relief works had been fairly started in Tunk, to conclude a summary settlement for a period of five years. The time at my disposal was short, and I should have preferred deferring it till next winter. On the other hand, the prospect of the Nawab being granted full authority at an early date rendered it very desirable that the settlement should be concluded at once.

Area, &c., of Perawa.

44. The area of the Perawa Pergunnah is estimated at 150,000 acres, supporting a population of 84,300 souls. The soil is black alluvium of the first class, though a large portion of the district is occupied by low, stony, unculturable hills: water is good, but generally situated rather deep below the surface. The population is distributed amongst 124 villages, of which 25 are *jaghires* and 99 *khalsa*.

Rates of assessment per acre.

45. In 1808-9 A. D., when the district fell into the hands of Nawab Ameer Khan, the land revenue, including *jaghires*, yielded Rupees 75,152. The rent per acre was as follows:—

Irrigated land.

				Rs.	a.	p.	
Opium	...	...	...	11	6	0	per acre.
Sugar-cane and wheat	...	...	...	7	9	0	"
Rice, barley, and Indian-corn	...	...	...	6	11	0	"

Unirrigated land, 1st quality.

Wheat	...	...	...	1	14	0	"
Jowar and gram	...	...	...	1	10	0	"

Inferior unirrigated land was charged proportionally less.

46. In 1815-16 the Amil raised the acreage rates 50 per cent.; a large number of zemindars left the district in consequence, and the revenue fell that year to Rupees 50,278. In 1818-19 a further increase of about two annas in the rupee was made, termed "*Zeeafut*," or feast,

nominally to defray the expenses incurred by Nawab Ameer Khan in feeding the Mahomedan poor at an Ajmere shrine. The poor were fed once, but the cess became a permanency. The rates per acre were thus brought up to the figure at which they now stand, *viz.*—

<i>Irrigated land.</i>				<i>Rs. a. p.</i>
Opium	...	...	...	18 6 0 per acre.
Sugar-cane and wheat	...	...	...	12 4 0 "
Rice, barley, and Indian-corn	...	...	...	11 0 0 "

<i>Unirrigated land, 1st quality.</i>				
Wheat	...	...	...	3 1 0 "
Jowar and gram	...	...	...	2 10 0 "

Thakoors and Patels are allowed reduced rates.

Increase in revenue since 1818 A. D.

47. Since 1818-19 the revenue of the whole district has steadily increased as follows:—

<i>Land revenue, including jaghires.</i>				<i>Rs.</i>
A. D. 1820-21	...	...	...	97,268
" 1825-26	...	...	...	1,06,031
" 1830-31	...	...	...	1,14,496
" 1835-36	...	...	...	1,23,812
" 1840-41	...	...	...	1,28,979
" 1845-46	...	...	...	1,44,874
" 1850-51	...	...	...	1,62,311
" 1855-56	...	...	...	1,52,725
" 1860-61	...	...	...	1,66,131
" 1866-67	...	...	...	1,97,656

The increase has been attributable to the annually extending area under opium.

Byachara tenure.

48. To escape the vexatious dealings of Government farmers, it has been the custom of the district for peasant proprietors to take up the leases of their own villages on a *Byachara* tenure. After the Government demand on the whole village has been fixed, they roughly calculate the area of their respective holdings, and if it be found that the rent at the rates per acre above detailed is insufficient to make up the amount required, the balance is spread proportionally on all. In like manner, should there be any excess, the sum is deducted rateably from their shares of the Government demand.

Village expenses.

49. Besides the regular rent, "village expenses," which vary in amount from one to three annas per rupee of the Government demand, have to be defrayed. From this source, Putwarees, Chowdries, Canongoes are paid, as also the fixed *nuzzurs* to the Government and many of its officials.

Dealings with Banking classes.

50. Leases are not given to village communities unless they can obtain the security of a Soncar. The whole district is, indeed, entirely dependent on the Banking classes, who discharge the revenue as the instalments fall due, and advance seed, food, and clothing to the zemindars, receiving the gross agricultural produce in return. In the month of May accounts are made up and closed. Advances of grain are repaid in kind, one-quarter of the original amount being added as the capitalist's profit. The money advances are charged interest at rates varying from 9 to 24 per cent. per annum. The Soncar further exacts from one to two annas in the rupee on the amount of the Government demand for standing security for the village community, as well, indeed, to cover the just interest of the advances made to discharge the revenue instalments. Should any balance remain due against the cultivator, it stands over until the following season, compound interest being duly charged.

Liabilities of the peasant proprietors.

51. With such usurious rates of interest, coupled with a high rental, it requires but one or two bad seasons to plunge the cultivator hopelessly into debt. I ascertained that the aggregate of debts due by the cultivators of 66 villages, who have their dealings with Perawa bankers, stood at Rupees 1,10,030 at the close of 1867-68, and the present year having been an unfavourable one in respect to opium, that sum must be now even larger. The debt of the whole district can scarcely be less than a full year's rental.

Application for renewal of leases.

52. Of the 99 khalsa villages in Perawa the leases of 12 are unexpired, leaving 87 that required a fresh settlement; and on my arrival in the district, I found that applications had been received by the Amil from the village "Panches," offering to renew their leases at an enhanced rent of some Rupees 7,000 per annum. From a few villages no applications had been submitted. But my enquiries showed me that the village communities were heavily involved, as above mentioned; that their liabilities had increased during the term of the seven years' leases now terminating; that there had been no material advance in agricultural prosperity during the same period; that the area of cultivable land lying fallow was very limited; that the proportion of land under opium was very large compared with that under other crops, and did not admit, therefore, of much further extension; and that the price of Malwa opium, from which the revenue is principally raised, and which had been for some years very high, indicated a decided tendency to fall. These and other circumstances satisfied me that any increase on the *juma* would be neither wise nor practicable; on the contrary, a reduced demand, so as to give a margin for bad seasons, was most desirable.

Objections to reducing the revenue.

53. But there were grave objections in the face of the financial embarrassment of the State in reducing the revenue. Again, I knew that at Tonk the merits of a settlement were simply measured by its fiscal results; an increased rental was synonymous with a good and

a reduced rental with a bad settlement; and in the latter event it was probable, as soon as the Regency terminated, that the Amil would receive instructions to make up the sum remitted by a fresh cess on some pretext.

Expediency of maintaining Government demand at present figure.

54. It appeared expedient, therefore, to maintain the total Government demand as nearly as possible at its present amount, and to afford relief in other ways, for example, by removing inequalities in the rent where apparent; by remitting in part or whole outstanding balances; by reducing the "village expenses;" by securing less onerous terms for the zemindars from the Banking classes; and by promoting irrigation works by Tneecavee advances.

New settlement in 69 villages.

55. Working with this view, 69 villages were summarily assessed and the leases accepted by the village Panchayets. The results were:—

	Rs.
Government demand on 69 villages, according to seven years' leases, expiring in June 1869 ...	1,07,678
Cesses subsequently added ...	1,747
Total present Government demand ...	1,09,425
Government demand now settled for a term of five years, including all cesses ...	1,09,272
Total reduction ...	153

In 23 villages the *juma* has been reduced by Rupees 2,723, whilst in 46 villages it has been raised by Rupees 2,570.

Estimated demand in 18 villages.

56. The communities of the remaining 18 villages solicited that their lands might be measured and then assessed according to the per-gunnah rates per acre detailed in paragraph 46. Their request was admitted. The measurements have only just been completed, and the assessment has not yet been determined; but I estimate a reduction of Rupees 921 on the previous settlement, which amounted to Rupees 35,821, will result.

Village Expenses.

57. The item "village expenses" I found a subject of general complaint, and justly so. In some villages it did not exceed one-sixteenth of the amount of the Government demand, whilst in others it doubled that ratio. An extravagant or dishonest Patel, if on good terms with his Putwarce, could charge pretty much what he pleased to this head. The aggregate of village expenses, as well as the proportion to the revenue, has been rising gradually. A few years ago the village expenses of the whole district were about Rupees 14,000. In 1867-68 the amount was Rupees 19,123. For the five years ending in 1867-68, the ratio of the village expenses to the revenue was one anna and seven pie to the rupee. In 1867-68 the ratio was one anna and nine pie.

After examining the various items disbursed from this source, and re-mitting Rupees 5 per village, which had been added unjustly to the Government "*Bhet*," it was settled that the expenditure should, in the future, be entirely defrayed by the Patel, who will receive a fixed cess of one anna to every rupee of revenue.

Arrangements with Banking classes.

58. With the Banking class it was arranged that the highest charge they would make for standing security for village communities should not exceed $1\frac{1}{2}$ anna to the rupee, or $9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the Government demand, and that 15 per cent. should be the maximum rate of interest.

Tuccarce advances.

59. To promote the construction of new wells, Rupees 10,000 have been advanced to zemindars, the sum to be repaid in four years.

Financial results of settlement.

60. The financial result to the State of the settlement thus made stands as follows:—

	Rs.
Reduction in the revenue of 69 villages finally assessed	153
Estimated reduction in the revenue of 18 villages by measurement	922
Remission of Rupees 5 per village as " <i>Bhet</i> ," heretofore charged under Village Expenses ...	415
Total deduction in Government demand ...	<u>1,520</u>

Financial results to zemindars.

61. To the zemindars the results are:—

Reduced Government demand in 69 villages ...	153
Estimated reduced demand in 18 villages ...	922
Reduced amount of village expenses, i. e., difference between one anna and seven pie and one anna per rupee of Government demand ...	5,260
Estimated saving in the sum paid to Soucars for standing security	<u>2,630</u>
Total, Rs. ...	<u>8,965</u>

The reduced rate of interest will be a still greater boon to the zemindars, though it is difficult to estimate the exact sum it will save them.

Settlement in Chuppra District.

62. As mentioned in my last year's Report, the settlement of the Chuppra District terminates next month. The Amil has been engaged in preparing statistics for a fresh settlement, but nothing further has been yet arranged.

Land revenue—Nimbhara District.

63. On visiting the Nimbhara District, I found a good deal of discontent. In 1866-67 an Ex-Amil, to whom I have already alluded, broke up a settlement which had two years to run, and issued fresh leases, with an increment, of course, to the Government demand. The district is mostly farmed out to Bunnys and other speculators, with whom the zemindars are generally dissatisfied.

Modes of assessment.

64. The Government rent over a greater portion of the district is levied by a money assessment; in some talookas a division of the crops is the custom. In 1860 A. D. the rent per acre was increased 8½ per cent., and a like increase was made in 1866 A. D., raising the acre rates to the following:—

Irrigated land.

		Rs. a.	Rs. a.
On opium, wheat, barley, and Indian-corn...	9 0 to	9 8	per acre.
„ sugar-cane	12 0 to	16 0	„
„ cotton	5 0 to	5 8	„

Unirrigated land.

According to the quality of soil ... 0 8 to 1 10 „

Where the assessment is in kind, the Government share of the gross produce is—

Rubbee crop	...	52 per cent.
Khureef crop	...	65 „

and in 1866 a cess of one-quarter of an anna in every rupee's worth of produce remaining to the cultivator was added. This has been remitted, the Government share being manifestly too heavy.

Results of peace since 1818 A. D.

65. Half a century has now elapsed since peace and tranquillity were secured to Rajpootana and Central India by the establishment of the British supremacy in 1818 A. D., and it may not be uninteresting to note what has been the effect on the revenue of Native principalities, despite the hand-to-mouth policy under which they languish.

The revenues of this State have thus progressed:—

Year.		Land Revenue.		Revenue from other sources.		Jaghires.		Total.
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
1818-19 A. D.	...	6,51,567	...	88,707	...	1,00,864	...	9,00,958
1828-29	„	5,85,028	...	79,515	...	1,08,564	...	8,33,107
1838-39	„	6,98,818	...	64,425	...	1,00,720	...	9,53,993
1848-49	„	7,72,593	...	84,794	...	1,05,234	...	10,52,621
1868-69	„	8,83,193	...	1,71,845	...	1,89,389	...	12,44,427
1868-69	„	9,06,000	...	1,45,700	...	4,06,150	...	14,56,850

The increase is in part to be attributed to the fall in the value of money

FINANCIAL.

66. The following Statement will exhibit the actual income and expenditure for the Pushee year 1275, *i. e.*, from June 1867 to May 1868:—

RECEIPTS.			DISBURSEMENTS.		
		<i>Rupces.</i>			<i>Rupces.</i>
I.	Land Revenue ...	9,50,070	I.	Army and Police ...	3,42,500
II.	Customs ...	81,426	II.	Civil establishments ...	1,78,321
III.	Nuzzerana ...	54,763	III.	Allowances to members of family ...	1,76,720
IV.	Judicial ...	52,511	IV.	Allowance to Nawab ...	5,000
V.	Stamps ...	37,179	V.	Allowance to Ex-Nawab ...	25,400
VI.	Miscellaneous ...	85,717	VI.	Purchases by ditto ...	42,933
VII.	Rent of certain villages belonging to Begums of Nawab Wuzer-ood-dowla ...	8,718	VII.	Gifts and grants of money by ditto ...	73,560
	Total ...	12,60,405	VIII.	Privy expenditure of ditto ...	1,09,610
	Loan contracted by Ex-Nawab ...	1,53,378	IX.	Public Works Department ...	47,230
	Loan contracted by Agent, Governor General ...	1,00,000	X.	State establishment, such as stables, lichen, &c. ...	68,300
	Total ...	15,33,781	XI.	Awards for compensation by Rajpootana Courts of Vakeels ...	10,179
	Deficit ...	1,71,014	XII.	Loss by exchange ...	10,056
			XIII.	Miscellaneous ...	35,719
			XIV.	Lease of certain villages belonging to Begums of Nawab Wuzer-ood-dowla ...	36,235
			XV.	Assistant Agent, Governor General, and establishment ...	4,102
				Total expenditure ...	11,72,034
				Debts liquidated, including interest ...	4,06,515
				Cash taken by Ex-Nawab on his departure ...	1,26,219
	Grand total ...	17,05,693		Grand total ...	17,05,693

It will be observed, then, that the income for the year amounted to Rupees 12,80,406, and the expenditure to Rupees 11,72,931, leaving a surplus of Rupees 1,07,472, the interest of the State debt not being provided for. But if the loans contracted and the debts liquidated, together with the cash the Ex-Nawab was allowed to take on his departure, be added to their respective sides of the account, a deficit of Rupees 1,71,914 results. The cash balance, therefore, which had stood at Rupees 1,77,535 at the commencement of the year, were reduced to Rupees 5,621.

Land Revenue of 1867-68.

67. The income from land revenue does not wholly appertain to 1867-68. It may be thus divided:—

	<i>Rupees.</i>
Land revenue for year 1867-68 proper ...	8,53,701
Ditto for year 1866-67, realized in 1867-68 ...	1,06,476
Outstanding balances realized during year ...	20,799
	<hr/>
Total ...	9,80,979
	<hr/>

Customs for 1867-68.

68. Customs, which amounted to Rupees 72,000 in 1866-67, have realized Rupees 84,436, and this, too, with reduced duties.

Nuzzerana, Stamp, and Judicial for 1867-68.

69. The revenue derived, under the heads of Nuzzerana, Judicial, and Stamps, is unusually large. It was mostly collected during the commencement of the year, when the Ex-Nawab was in power.

70. An explanation of the concluding item VII. of receipts will be found in paragraph 73.

71. Turning to disbursements, I may remark that the first three items include more or less fourteen months' pay.

Thus:—

	<i>Pay for twelve months of 1867-68.</i>	<i>Pay in arrears for two months of 1866-67.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
I.—Army and Police ...	3,03,560	38,940	3,42,500
II.—Civil establishments ...	1,73,844	4,477	1,78,321
III.—Allowances to members of family ...	1,70,720	6,000	1,76,720
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6,48,124	49,417	6,97,541
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

72. Items Nos. VI., VII., and VIII. were expended when the Ex-Nawab was in authority. The two latter, aggregating Rupees 1,83,000, were simply money wasted. I under-estimated the amount of item VII. in my last year's Report, as I had no knowledge at the time that certain large sums had been granted by orders on the revenue of outlying districts.

73. In paragraph 90 of my Report for 1867-68 I wrote that the Ex-Nawab had accorded his mother some extra allowances which had tended to swell up the disbursement sheet. This was not exactly accurate. I should have said that the Nawab had rented, for Rupees 36,235, certain villages belonging to the ladies in question, of which the rental was only Rupees 8,748, virtually, therefore, presenting them with Rupees 27,487. This is the explanation of item VII. of receipts and XIV. of disbursements. The villages in question were returned at the close of the year.

Cause of reduced cash balances.

74. It will be asked why the cash balances were left at so inadequate a figure by the payment of so large a sum towards the liquidation of debt, necessitating, as will be shown hereafter, a temporary loan to carry on the Government? It arose from the fact that assignments on the revenue of outlying districts had been granted, prior to the formation of the Regency, to creditors, some of whom, moreover, had been permitted to discount their orders on the security of the district officer.

Debt liquidated.

75. Of the debt liquidated, Rupees 3,42,227 bore interest at 12 per cent. per annum; the balance consisted of miscellaneous debts bearing no interest. I may here mention that I have induced creditors, whose claims aggregate Rupees 2,83,588, to reduce their rate of interest from 12 to 10 per cent. per annum with effect from the commencement of the current year. One firm, who are owed Rupees 1,34,441, have not yet consented; but I expect a favourable answer in a day or two. This will reduce interest charges by Rupees 8,000 per annum.

76. The regular Budget Estimate of the current year, based on eight months' actual receipts and disbursements, stands as follows:—

RECEIPTS.			DISBURSEMENTS.		
		Rupees.			Rupees.
I.	Land Revenue ...	9,06,000	I.	Interest on debt ...	49,000
II.	Customs ...	66,000	II.	Army and Police ...	2,51,300
III.	Nuzzcrana ...	16,000	III.	Civil establishments ...	1,34,890
IV.	Judicial ...	17,200	IV.	Allowances to members of family ...	2,11,840
V.	Stamps ...	4,500	V.	Allowance of Nawab ...	14,000
VI.	Miscellaneous ...	42,000	VI.	Allowance of Ex-Nawab.	62,00
	Total ordinary Receipts ...	10,51,700	VII.	Regency Council ...	18,00
	Extraordinary Income.		VIII.	Foreign Agencies ...	14,67
II.	Loan by Government of India for relief and irrigation works, January 1869 ...	1,00,000	IX.	Dispensary ...	1,50
III.	Receipts on account of sale of grain imported by State ...	1,40,000	X.	Land Revenue ...	8,54
IX.	Temporary loan taken up in August 1863 ...	1,00,000	XI.	Public Works Department ...	24,00
			XII.	State establishments, such as stable, commissariat, &c. ...	62,00
			XIII.	Miscellaneous ...	32,50
			XIV.	Awards of Court of Wazels ...	5,00
			XV.	Assistant Agent, Governor General, and establishment ...	12,00
			XVI.	Alms-house ...	7,50
			XVII.	Instalment towards Rupees 1,35,000 due to the Ex-Nawab ...	36,034
				Total expenditure ...	9,45,740
				Extraordinary Expenditure.	
			XVIII.	Relief irrigation works undertaken directly by State ...	35,000
			XIX.	Taccaveo advances for prosecution of irrigation works ...	25,000
			XX.	Cost of grain imported by State ...	1,40,000
			XXI.	Amount of temporary loan (Item IX. of Receipts) liquidated ...	1,00,000
				Total of ordinary and extraordinary expenditure ...	12,45,740
				Surplus ...	1,45,960
	Total of ordinary and extraordinary Receipts...	13,91,700		Grand total ...	13,91,700

The ordinary income of the year, it will be seen, amounts to Rupees 10,51,700, against an ordinary expenditure of Rupees 9,45,740, including charges for interest, or a surplus of Rupees 1,05,960. But Item XVII. of expenditure is really an instalment towards the liquidation of a liability to be discharged in three years; so that the actual surplus for 1868-69 may be fairly held at Rupees 1,41,960. Bearing in mind, then, that the famine has to some extent decreased the receipts and added to the expenditure, the results above indicated may be held, I trust, as not wholly unsatisfactory.

Increase in Land Revenue.

77. Under orders from the Government of India, the jaghires conferred by the Ex-Nawab shortly before his deposition have been resumed, and their rental causes the increase under the head of Land Revenue. Provision has been duly made for remissions of revenue owing to the famine.

Customs, 1868-69.

78. The remission of duties on grain has imposed a loss of Rupees 16,000 to the customs revenue; but the amount that will be realized nevertheless reaches an average figure.

Nuzzerana, Stamps, &c., of 1868-69.

79. Nuzzerana and stamps exceed, whilst miscellaneous and judicial equal, the amounts at which they were estimated.

General increase in regular Budget over Estimate.

80. With the exception of Abkaree, then, which has been only partially introduced for some months of the year, the regular Budget for 1868-69 exceeds, or equals, the estimate submitted in May last under every head.

Government loan of one lakh.

81. Of the extraordinary income, item VII. requires no special comment, beyond that the loan is being expended in the manner desired by the Government. Rupees 60,000 will, it is estimated, be spent by the end of the year.

Importation of grain.

82. The entire amount of grain imported by the State has not yet been disposed of; a portion is kept in hand to meet any emergent pressure on the market, which, it is feared, may arise in June, should the first break of rain be at all late. It is hoped that financially the State may not lose by the direct importation of grain; profit was, of course, not sought.

Loan of one lakh—Item IX.

83. As shown in paragraph 66, the cash balance at the commencement of the year stood at Rupees 5,621. It was imperatively necessary, therefore, to have recourse to a temporary loan of one lakh of rupees, to be liquidated during the course of the year, as the larger revenue instalments became due. The loan was obtained at 8 per cent. per annum.

Military and civil establishments.

84. The expenditure on Army and Police has been kept within the allotment appropriated to this head. Civil establishments, on the other hand, show an increase. This has arisen partly from higher salaries to menial attendants which the famine rates of food demanded, but chiefly from the fact that the sum required was originally under-estimated. I found that there existed in the outlying districts a number of officials not entered in the regular rolls, who were paid from irregular sources of revenue. Inverting the procedure to which we are accustomed, district officers do not submit Budget Estimates of the receipts and disbursements of their respective charges, but are each furnished with an estimate from Tonk at the beginning of the year, to which they consider themselves bound by duty and interest to adhere very closely. Any revenue, except from land, realized over and above the amounts set down in these estimates, forms the source from which the unmustered officials are paid. Such a system is liable to much abuse; for, unless the subordinates in question are left to starve, the Amil must provide the funds necessary for their pay in some manner, whether justly or unjustly. All this class of servants has been brought on the rolls, making an increase on the disbursement side.

Increase in allowances to Tonk family.

85. When the jaghires conferred by the Ex-Nawab on some of his relations in lieu of cash allowances were resumed with the sanction of Government, the allowances had to be recommenced, and hence the increase under head IV.

Increase in expenditure of State establishment.

86. The expenditure for State establishments, *i. e.*, commissariat, stables, kitchen, &c., has risen to Rupees 62,000, the estimate having been Rupees 36,000; but with grain at three times and fodder at five times its usual price, this was unavoidable. For economy, almost all the Government elephants, horses, and cattle, including the artillery horses, were despatched last November to Chuppra, where the rates of grain and grass are more reasonable; otherwise the expenditure would have been much heavier than it is. The quantity of daily rations per head was also considerably curtailed.

87. The financial Statements for 1867-68 and 1868-69, above submitted, are, I trust, sufficiently explicit. They have been prepared with some difficulty; for the vernacular accounts, owing to the detached nature of the different districts, are kept in a manner which causes their being rendered into our mode by no means simple or easy.

Military.

88. The strength and constitution of the military troops and Police have remained unchanged during the year. A small increase of Rupees 2 per mensem has been granted to sowars stationed at Tonk on account of the price of fodder. Had their pay been doubled, it would not have been excessive, but the State could not afford it. Indeed, both horse and foot have suffered severely from privation. Only a small body of the former has been kept at Tonk.

Education.

89. In January last a school was opened at Tonk in a commodious house centrally situated. The institution, though in its infancy, grows in popularity. The daily attendance of scholars is now 106, of which the English class numbers 40, Persian 24, and Hindee 42.

Forest Conservancy.

90. In the Seronge and Chhippra Districts, where the soil is black and the rain-fall heavy, teak, mahwa, and other valuable timber-trees flourish. Arrangements have, therefore, been made to demarcate certain jungle tracts for conservancy.

Cotton Experiments.

91. The cotton grown in the Tonk District is considered superior to that of the North-Western Provinces, though much inferior to the Hinghughat cotton. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce pronounced it of good colour, but short in staple, and irregular. Mr. Rivett-Carnac, Cotton Commissioner, Berars and Central Provinces, was good enough, on my application, to forward 20 mannds of Hinghughat seed, 2 mannds of Dharwar acclimatized, and 2 mannds of fresh New Orleans. The seed did not unfortunately arrive till about three weeks after cotton is ordinarily sown in this district; and whether or not it is to be attributed to this cause, I am unable to say, but the experiment most decidedly failed. The plants were stunted in growth, yielded a smaller supply of cotton than the common country seed, and, what is still more odd, seemed inferior in quality. I propose to renew the experiment this year, and I trust with better success.

Cotton Press.

92. To facilitate the transport of cotton from these distant districts to Agra, our nearest point to the railway, the Agent of the Governor General sanctioned the purchase of a wooden half-press. The press has not yet arrived, though it may be expected in a few days. At present there is not a single press in Rajpootana.

Trade.

93. The following Return exhibits the exterior trade of the Tonk District for the year 1868-69, i. e., from April 1868 to March 1869:—

IMPORTS.				EXPORTS.			
		Mds.	Rs.			Mds.	Rs.
Cotton	...	17,535	2,45,490			21,239	2,97,316
Sugar	...	12,936	1,94,040			7,788	1,16,820
Salt	...	331,954	4,14,942			272,172	3,40,215
Grain	...	158,385	6,33,540			21,966	87,864
Tobacco	...	1,818	29,088			1,097	17,552
Opium	...	44	15,840			34	12,240
English Piece-goods,	...	753	60,240			161	12,880
Country cloth	...	1,369	41,070			2,235	67,050
Wool	...	59	1,770			75	2,250
Metals	...	188	7,520			100	4,000
Miscellaneous	...	5,585	1,00,530			2,491	44,838
Total	...	530,626	18,44,070			329,358	10,03,055

or a total import and export trade of 859,984 maunds (30,714 tons), valued at Rupees 28,47,125. I believe this is an unprecedented figure. The trade of 1867-68, which was considered more than an average year, only amounted to 216,352 maunds, valued at Rupees 17,78,614. Yet an examination of the various articles of commerce, as well as a comparison of the relative amount of exports to imports, at once shows that the increase is by no means wholly a subject of congratulation. It will be observed that, in a district which ordinarily exports cereals, the import of grain exceed the export by 129,337 maunds, costing the people upwards of five lakhs of rupees. The pressure of the famine may also be in some measure gauged by the decrease in the consumption of articles of luxury. For example, the demand for sugar has fallen off by Rupees 90,000 as compared with the preceding year, and English piece-goods by Rupees 60,000.

Cotton Trade.

94. The cotton trade was exceedingly brisk in April and May 1868. Since the monsoon not much business has been done. The out-turn of cotton this-year was far below the average, and the price has ranged very high. Of the imported cotton, 8,837 maunds came from the Jeypore and 6,836 maunds from the Meywar State. Of the export, 19,245 maunds were despatched to Agra.

Salt Trade.

95. The enormous quantity of salt produced from the Sambhur Lake this year may be in some degree estimated by the amount imported into Tonk, *i. e.*, 331,954 maunds. Had the geographical position of this State enabled it to levy a duty thereon at all proportionate to that exacted on our border, a revenue of many lakhs might have been realized; whereas, with the merely fractional dues that are taken here, the duties only amounted to about Rupees 10,000. Of the salt exported, 21,713 maunds were freighted to Boondee, and 224,292 maunds to Kotah, Jhalra Patun, and Central India. Salt is always so cheap at Tonk, that it is given by Bunnyas gratis to customers purchasing a daily meal of flour.

Grain Trade.

96. Agra has been our principal mart for grain. Maunds 81,834 were received from Agra and the North-Western Provinces; maunds 43,269 from Jeypore; maunds 10,960 from Kotah; and maunds 18,000 from Seronge, Chuppra, and Central India. In spite of this heavy import, and although the rubbee crops are now entering the market, prices stand at about the same exorbitant rates which they attained last October. The stocks of grain in the country must have been very low, and wholly insufficient without ample exterior aid to have prevented absolute starvation. It is not an insignificant fact that Boondee, which, till the end of last year, was currently believed to have enormous stores of cereals, imported 9,300 maunds from Tonk in January and February.

Trade of Nimbhara District.

97. The Nimbhara District lies across the Mhow and Nusseerabad road, a few miles north of the Neemuch Cantonment. To the eastward,

as far as Kotah, communication between Malwa and Central Rajpootana is barred by a rocky steppe; to the west by spurs of the Aravallis. Hence a considerable trade passes through Nimbhara, amounting during the past year to 330,400 maunds, valued at Rupees 16,52,000. The principal exports from Rajpootana were 109,850 maunds of salt and 960 chests of opium, the total weight of exports being 128,130 maunds, valued at Rupees 8,94,400. The return trade from Malwa amounted to 202,250 maunds, valued at Rupees 7,57,600, of which 193,233 maunds were grain and piece-goods, valued at Rupees 21,600.

Other Districts.

98. The trade of the remaining districts of the State is much less important, and has been registered so imperfectly, that I refrain from giving the Returns.

Tonk Dispensary.

99. The Tonk Dispensary continues to work satisfactorily under Native Doctor Bheekoo Singh, and has been specially useful during this year of distress in affording relief to the sick and exhausted of the starving wayfarers who have crowded into the town for employment. The dispensary is now located in a new and commodious building, and its operations have been rendered more effective by the purchase of certain instruments necessary to success. 9,540 persons were treated in 1868, and 3,283 children vaccinated, of which 2,442 were successful.

General Health.

100. Small-pox of a virulent type broke out last November, and has carried off a lamentably large number of children. A strong prejudice, amounting to positive fear, obtains against vaccination. Mothers bar their doors and hide away their children when they hear of a vaccinator's approach. There has been no cholera.

Register of births and deaths.

101. Births and deaths at Tonk and other chief towns of the State are now regularly registered. Village registers are about to be instituted.

SIROHI REPORT.

No. 401-11P., dated 20th May 1869.

From—LIEUTENANT W. J. W. MUIR, Political Superintendent of Sirohi.

To—LIEUT.-COL. R. H. KEATINGE, C.S.I., V.C., Agent, G. G., Rajpootana.

I HAVE the honor to submit the following Report on the administration of the Sirohi State for the year 1868-69:—

2. The more important occurrences which took place during this period were, 1st, the outlawry of the Thakoor of Bhutana; 2nd, the famine; and 3rd, the financial embarrassments of the State.

3. The name of Nathoo Singh, Thakoor of Bhutana, appears constantly in the later history of Sirohi. His proceedings have in no inconsiderable degree influenced its fortunes, and his former rebellion was one of the causes which led to the management of the State being assumed by us at the request of the late Rao. The head of the Tejawat clan, the estates of which are situated on the southernmost of the State, in the midst of a wild and difficult country, noted for personal courage and strength, of a commanding person, vindictive and reckless, Nathoo Singh, is, perhaps, the last representative of the turbulent and independent class whom on our advent we found composing the feudal nobility of this part of India. With strong patriotic feelings, which impelled him to sacrifice everything for his Chief and country, he has resented aught like interference on the part of the Durbar in his own estates, and been ready to assert his point, if necessary, by arms.

4. The cause of his present outlawry is the right to the village of Beejwa, contiguous to Bhutana, the rival claimant to which is one Muddun Singh, a cadet of the neighbouring family of Madar. For some years the latter had petitioned the Durbar to be put in possession of the village, and the Thakoor of Bhutana had been several times summoned to the capital to show cause why he should not. For a long time he refused to attend. On doing so, he confined himself to asserting that the village was his, and that he would not give it up to any one.

In the beginning of 1868 reports were received that Nathoo Singh was preparing to go into outlawry, and, as a preliminary measure, was evacuating Bhutana and compelling the inhabitants to leave. As at last his intentions were unmistakable, the Durbar was addressed on the subject. Its reply was, that it had not the power to coerce the Thakoor. Under these circumstances, I was directed to address him, promising that, if he came in, his case should be fully investigated by myself, but adding that, should he not do so within a certain period, he would be treated as an outlaw. The Thakoor, instead of meeting these advances, continued to mature his arrangements, and to urge the cultivators to get in the remainder of the harvest and to desert the village. He further occupied the fort with a number of armed adherents and others whom he had collected. It was, consequently, considered necessary to dislodge him, and on the 7th April I proceeded to Bhutana.

On arrival, the fort was deserted, and the place has since been occupied by our detachment. The Thakoor was again invited on the occasion of your tour through the State in May to come in, and offered a free conduct should he choose to do so. This invitation, however, he did not accept.

As the Thakoor committed no overt act of violence, no further action was taken against him. It was apparent that he had acted with a view to overawe the Durbar into giving him Bejor, and it was hoped that the measures taken would lead him to think better of the course he had entered on. This hope was not realized, for on the 23rd May he attacked a large marriage party proceeding along the high road from Madar (the village to which his rival belonged) to Sirohi, killing three and wounding five persons and carrying off into the hills 15 others, with property to the value of eight or ten thousand rupees.

Under the authority of the Government of India, active measures were at once taken against him. A small field force was organized, consisting of detachments of the Erinpoora Irregular Force and of the 20th Regiment, Bombay Native Infantry, under the command of Captain Jacob, of the former corps.

Notwithstanding the unremitting exertions which have since been made to effect his capture, the outlaw is still at large. From the disclosures made by members of his band and the captives he carried off, it appears that he left his family and property in the Dewallattee tract of Marwar, bordering on Sirohi, the Thakoors of which are a wild and independent race, under little, if any, control, and that, making this tract his base of operations, he and his band have found an asylum in the wild fastnesses which abound on the confines of Sirohi on the Marwar, Pahlapore, and Edur frontiers. His band varies in number; sometimes he is almost alone, at other times he has as many as 50 followers. During the period he has been in outlawry, he or his band have, in addition to numerous petty attacks, acted aggressively on six occasions, killing and wounding 23 persons and destroying property to a considerable value.

The uncle of the boy, Thakoor of Rowa, one of the principal Chiefs of the State, was convicted of sheltering and furnishing supplies to the outlaws, and sentenced to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment. The example made of this man was a severe lesson to all the Thakoors of the State, a body which, owing to the weakness of the governing power, had previously considered itself almost beyond the reach of punishment. Others of all classes have also been punished for assisting the outlaw.

6. To understand the difficulty of contending against an outlaw like Nathoo Singh, the country and the feeling of its Chiefs must be taken into consideration. The former is everywhere broken by ranges of hill, covered with jungle, and sparsely populated. At almost every part it can be traversed from side to side without approaching a single village. The landed nobility, though amenable to authority when compared with their brethren in Marwar and Meywar, are independent, and, in their own estates, almost despotic. Indeed, the connection between them and their tenantry is not dissimilar to that of a landlord and his tenants in the English counties.

the middle of last century between a Chief and his clan in the Highlands of Scotland. Among this class it had always been the custom to aid the rebel of the day. This arose, not only from its being considered a point of honor to do so, but because each Thakoor felt he might himself be the next to stand in need of help. With increased tranquillity and the reviving strength of the Durbar, this state of things is dying out in Sirohi; and in the present instance the Chiefs, as a body, may, perhaps, be best described as neutral. This is in a great measure due to the fact that outlaws have, owing to the difficulties attendant on their capture and suppression, been hitherto invariably resettled. Notwithstanding the proclamations issued and the action taken against him, there is no one in the country who does not believe that Nathoo Sing will again be reinstated, and that, as formerly, he will revenge himself without fail on all who have gone against him. This feeling is especially strong among the lower classes, and is the great obstacle in the way of obtaining any information regarding his whereabouts and associates.

I have entered into these particulars, as I believe that much of the future weal of the country depends on the issue of the struggle now going on. To say that it is being eagerly watched does not convey the interest felt in it by all far and near, and its successful termination will do more to settle the country than might else.

7. It gives me much pleasure to bear testimony to the hearty manner in which the Rao has acted with us throughout the struggle, and how to the best of his limited means His Highness has endeavoured to co-operate with us. The same spirit has inspired the majority of the Raj officials. My Reports have already conveyed to you my sense of Captain Jacob's services. From the first this officer threw himself into the duty entrusted to him, and I regret that he should since have suffered from the exposure he underwent.

8. I now turn to the famine which has afflicted this part of India. The rain-fall during the past monsoon was exceedingly scanty. On Aboo it was only 30 inches or less than half of that of the previous year; whilst in other parts of the State it did not exceed one quarter of an average year's supply. The khureef crops in consequence generally failed.

The rubbee crop for some time promised well, but during March most unseasonable weather set in. Heavy rain in parts and blight elsewhere so damaged the ripening crops, that the out-turn was only about 6 annas in the rupee.

The failure of the rains commenced telling on prices as early as August. Wheat, which in July had been selling at 30 lbs. per rupee on Aboo, and 34 lbs. in the plains below, had by the middle of September risen to 14 and 16 lbs. It soon rose to 12 and 14 lbs., at about which it may be said to have since remained.

Early in November His Highness the Rao issued a proclamation remitting the dues leviable on grain, and interdicting all obstruction to, or interference in its free export and import. His Highness was further represented at the Conference held at Ajmere in December, when the States of Rajpootana bound themselves not to exact more than

a certain amount of duty on grain, to be entirely remitted on occasions of scarcity. As transit dues (of which the duty on cereals is a large item) form no inconsiderable portion of the income of Sirohi, the part taken by this small State in uniting to adopt so liberal a policy was no mere empty assent.

Amongst the lower castes and the more distinct or aboriginal tribes, the Grassias, Meenas, and Bheels, the famine has pressed very heavily. These classes depend almost, if not entirely, for their subsistence on the rain crop, which they sow with their own hands in the jungle, and the produce of which they store for the year's consumption. For some months after the rains they earned a livelihood by collecting grass and fodder for cattle, glad to increase their precarious meals by adding thereto a large proportion of the bark of the Khejra tree, or the barbed seed of the Gokroo, ground to a fine flour. The carcasses of the dead cattle which perished in numbers on every hand were also eagerly devoured. Numbers latterly flocked to Aboo and Anadra for employment. To provide work, a relief fund was raised by the European residents of Aboo and Deesa, to which the Rao contributed Rupees 100 per mensem. These funds have been utilized in making and repairing roads on and at the foot of Aboo. The Rao further devoted a sum of Rupees 5,000 for the purpose of deepening the city tank at the capital as a relief work. In addition to these measures, His Highness made remissions throughout the country generally, on the rights ordinarily payable to the State by its subjects.

The mortality in cattle owing to the want of fodder has been very great, though by no means so excessive as in the neighbouring State of Marwar. I estimate that upwards of one-half have been lost.

9. Notwithstanding these untoward events, the peace of the country has, with the exception of the outlawry of the Thakoor of Bhutana, been unimpaired. The prevailing scarcity has led many to break the law, but heinous crimes have been rare.

10. In the last Annual Report of this Agency I brought to notice that the expenditure of the State had during Sumbut 1923 considerably exceeded receipts. The State was not, however, in debt, and the Rao, in discussing the subject, acquainted me that it was his intention to secure an equilibrium by large retrenchments. These His Highness did not carry out, and soon internal rebellion necessitated extra expenditure. The celebration of the marriages of his uterine brother, to whom he is much attached, and of his remaining sister to the Maharaja of Kerrowlie further threw a heavy burden on the State. Attention was from time to time invited to these facts both in conversation and by confidential khureetas, and His Highness was urged to meet expenditure by equivalent reductions. No action was, however, taken, and accelerated by the exceptionally heavy expenses and loss of revenue consequent on the Bhutana rebellion and the famine, the State drifted into insolvency. In April matters came to a crisis, and at the Rao's request I proceeded to the capital to consult as to what should be done. The following is an abstract of the receipts and disbursements for Sumbut 1924

RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
	Rs.		Rs.
Balance in hand at commencement of year ...	47,581	Expenditure of all kinds ...	1,37,063
Income for the year ...	1,24,219	Expenses on the marriages of His Highness's brother and sister ...	53,085
Amount borrowed ...	49,040	Cash and stock in private Treasury	22,592
		Uncollected balance in purgunnas	8,102
Total, Bheelarce Rs. ...	2,20,842	Total, Bheelarce Rs. ...	2,20,812

In other words, that, deducting a sum of Rupees 8,102, the uncollected balance in the purgunnas, the liabilities of the State amounted on the 4th July 1868 to Rupees 40,938. To meet these, the Rao had in his private Treasury a sum of Rupees 18,000, which, if paid, would have reduced the amount to Rupees 22,938.

Owing to the exceptional nature of the year, the failure of the crops, and the enhanced price of grass and grain, it was found most difficult to arrive at any reliable estimate of the current year's income or expenditure. It was computed, however, that on the 30th ultimo the liabilities of the State were Rupees 1,26,500; that the expenditure to the close of the native year would amount to Rupees 24,000, and the income expected to Rupees 19,000, leaving a deficit of Rupees 1,31,425.

On learning these facts, and believing himself unable to extricate his country from its embarrassments, the Rao requested that the management of his State might again be undertaken for a period by the British Government. The matter is now under the consideration of Government.

11. In my last Report I referred to the very beneficial results accruing from the Durbar's determined policy in regard to the Hilly Tracts of Sirohi. This has since been persevered in and a second Raj post established on the further side of the tract. The absence of crime or complaint and the order obtaining are very creditable to the Durbar, more especially when it is remembered that this hilly region was three years ago an asylum for the outlaw, and that its Grassia tribes were the terror of the neighbouring plains, paid no Raj tax or due, and boasted that no Raj official dared even to set foot in their hills. To this altered state of things, which has been brought about almost during the term of his furlough to Europe, Colonel Black, the Political Agent in the Mahee Kanta, has borne voluntary and hearty testimony, and I would solicit that the matter may be brought to the notice of the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India with reference to his despatch quoted on the margin.

No. 73, dated 30th April 1868.

12. In addition to the regular duties of the Agency 55 civil and 56 criminal cases connected with the station of Abo were decided by this Office. No cases remained undisposed of at the close of the year.

13. I cannot conclude this Report without acknowledging the services of His Highness the Rao's Minister, Munshi Ameem Mahomed, to whose zeal, energy, and ability the State and its Ruler are alike deeply indebted.

APPENDIX A.

ABSTRACT of Receipts and Disbursements of the Sirohi State for Sumbat 1924 (16th July 1867 to 4th July 1868).

RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
	Rupees.		Rupees.
Balance in hand at commencement of year	...	Tribute to British Government	7,500
Land revenue	...	Household expenses of all kinds of His Highness	10,666
Transit dues	...	the Rao and family	4,351
Miscellaneous receipts	...	Charities and temples	17,432
	...	Stables and elephant, camel and bullock establishments	10,528
Advanced by Raj Banker and others	...	Other establishments	7,700
	...	Present, rewards, and supplies to camps and travellers	17,113
	...	Officials and Office expenses	5,949
	...	Police posts on main road	33,783
	...	Troops and contingent expenses	2,019
	...	Jail expenses	5,018
	...	Public Works	792
	...	School at Sirohi	1,410
	...	Dispensary and vaccination	21,841
	...	Sahiban Tej Singh's marriage	31,244
	...	Bacejo Phool Kownjee's marriage	11,870
	...	Miscellaneous	1,90,146
	...	By cash and stock in private treasury	22,592
	...	Uncollected balance in purgunnas on 4th July 1868	8,102
Total, Bhoolaroo Rs. ...	2,20,812	Total, Bhoolaroo Rs. ...	2,20,842

(Sd.) W. J. W. MUIR, Lieut.,
Political Superintendent, Sirohi.

ABOO, }
The 20th May 1869.